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PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
Louisiana Historical Society

⁹⁹
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

VOLUME VI :: :: :: :: 1912-1914

v. 6-7

CENTENNIAL
NUMBER

NEW ORLEANS
THE LOUISIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1912

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PROFESSOR ALCÉE FORTIER.



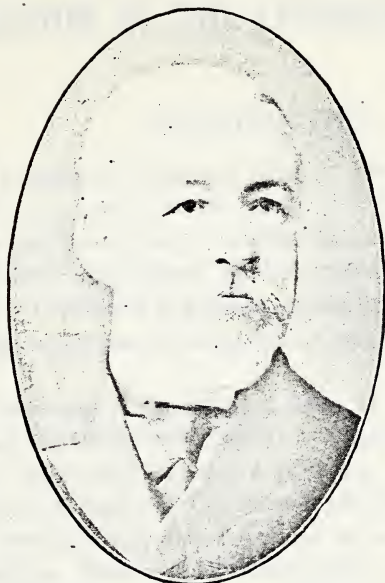
LOUISIANA CENTENNIAL MEDAL.

EX-100 1973



The Louisiana Historical Society
requests the honour of the presence of
THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA
at the
Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary
of the Admission of Louisiana as a
State into the United States
to be held in the City of New Orleans
April the thirtieth
Nineteen hundred and twelve

Alce Fortier
President



PROFESSOR ALC  E FORTIER.



LOUISIANA CENTENNIAL MEDAL.

CELEBRATION OF THE LOUISIANA CENTENNIAL.

INTRODUCTION.

The Louisiana Historical Society, desiring to preserve in fitting form a memorial of the history of the State and to foster among the people a pride in that history, has promoted and successfully conducted appropriate public celebrations of several important events. We desire to present herewith a record of the celebration of the centennial of Louisiana's admission as a State of the Union.

At a meeting of the Society, Dec. 21, 1909, Mr. W. O. Hart moved that the President appoint a committee of five to provide ways and means and present a plan for the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of Louisiana's admission to the Union. The motion prevailed, and the following were appointed members of this committee: Messrs. H. Garland Dupré, Chairman; W. O. Hart, T. P. Thompson, Charles T. Soniat, Prof. A. T. Prescott, John Dymond, Sr., and Martin Behrman. As a result of their efforts, the General Assembly of the State passed the following Act:

ACT. NO. 107. HOUSE BILL NO. 56. AN ACT.

To provide for the proper celebration, on April 30th, 1912, of the Centennial Anniversary of the Admission of Louisiana as a State, and making appropriation therefor.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, that the Louisiana Historical Society be authorized to adopt a program of ceremonies, fitting the dignity of the State and the importance of the event for a proper celebration on April 30th, 1912, the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Admission of Louisiana as a State of this Union; that the program prepared by the said Society be submitted to the Governor in due course for his approval, and that the arrangements for and charge of the celebration be confided to said Society.

SECTION 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State be requested to take the proper steps to secure the co-operation of the United States Government in said celebration, so that by national participation in and commemoration thereof by the National Government, said celebration shall be made worthy of the occasion; that the Governor of this State be requested to invite the Governors of all the States and Territories of the United States to attend said celebration and to send other representatives to participate therein, and that invitations through their Ambassadors and Ministers in Washington be extended to the Governments of Great Britain, France and Spain, as well as to the twenty other Republics of America.

SECTION 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That said celebration shall take place in the City of New Orleans, which was the capital of the State when it was admitted to the Union in 1812, and that said Society extend invitations to the proper officials in each Parish, and incorporated city and town of the State to be present and participate in the exercises.

SECTION 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That in connection with said celebration, said Society be authorized to publish a history thereof, and that a copy of same, through the Superintendent of Public Education, be sent to every public school in the State.

SECTION 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That to assist in defraying the expenses of said celebration, that the sum of \$500.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any funds of the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, same to be paid to the Louisiana Historical Society upon the warrant of its President, approved by the Governor.

H. G. DUPRE,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

P. M. LAMBREMONT,

Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved: July 1, 1910.

J. Y. SANDERS,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:

JOHN T. MICHEL,

Secretary of State.

In addition to the sum offered by the State, the City of New Orleans agreed to supply a like amount. Though the funds in sight were obviously inadequate to any fitting celebration of so important an event, the President of the Society was not discouraged, but in due season appointed a larger committee to prepare for the celebration. This committee, whose membership is given below, assembled for its first regular meeting on Saturday, Nov. 25, 1911, in the rooms of the Society at the Cabildo, and continued to meet there at frequent regular intervals, discussing and preparing for the celebration. The serious difficulty of lack of funds continued to embarrass the committee until a special appeal was made by the subcommittee on finance to the Board of Liquidation, through Messrs. T. P. Thompson and W. O. Hart, and Governor J. Y. Sanders. An ample fund was provided for the committee's use (\$5,000), and those interested in the history of the State should appreciate the efforts of the committee on finance.

The committee had felt confident that, in one way or another, the people of the State would help them in their patriotic work. Accordingly, plans for the celebration had been made in accord with the dignity of the State. Formal invitations were sent to all historical and learned societies, to Governors, and to other distinguished persons to assist in the celebration. Special invitations were sent to President Taft and to the Governors of States carved out of the Louisiana Purchase, to Chief Justice White, as a distinguished son of Louisiana, to His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, to Ambassadors and Ministers representing foreign powers at Washington. It was especially the aim of the committee to enlist the interest and if possible to secure the attendance of representatives from Great Britain, Spain, France, and the countries of our sister continent, and of the Governors of those States most closely associated with the history of Louisiana. It will be impossible to record in detail the cordial responses received from all sources. But the committee desire to express appreciation of the generous interest shown in this notable anniversary, and to return thanks.

Perhaps a few selections from the letters and telegrams received may serve to indicate the scope of the committee's work in this field.

In reply to an invitation to deliver an address at the celebration, Chief Justice White wrote to Professor Fortier: "It certainly

is a tempting offer and one which it would give me infinite pleasure to accept, but I fear I am under the necessity of saying I cannot do so Thank the Society for me, will you not, and tell them how deeply I regret the situation. If when the time comes I am free to go to Louisiana, I shall certainly do so for the purpose of participating in the ceremonies."

President Taft wrote to Hon. H. Garland Dupré, through whom the invitation was extended: "I have yours of March 21st, together with the invitation by the State of Louisiana, asking me to be present at the celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the admission of Louisiana as a State into the United States I regret that it will be impossible for me to be present, but I shall be very glad, before the occasion arises, to designate some one to represent me."

Speaker Champ Clark wrote to Professor Fortier: "It would give me a great deal of pleasure indeed to accept your very courteous and cordial invitation to be present and deliver an address on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the admission of the State of Louisiana into the Union. It was a great event indeed in our history, as she was the first State west of the Great River. But I can not accept your invitation. The Democrats have given me the highest place within their gift to confer, the highest that any Democrat has held in fifteen years, the second highest in the Government, and I must stay here and discharge the functions of my office Regretting that I can not be with you, and hoping that you will have a great and a satisfactory celebration, and that the State of Louisiana will exist long enough to celebrate scores and scores of centennials," etc.

President Theodore Roosevelt wrote: "I wish it were possible for my friends to realize my position, not for my own sake, but because then they would understand just why it is that I cannot accept all the invitations which come to me Greatly though I appreciate an invitation from such a body as the one you represent, it really is not possible for me to accept. I cannot undertake anything further of any kind or sort now. I am very sorry."

His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, unable to attend, requested Archbishop Blenk to represent him at the ceremonies. Governor David R. Francis expressed his regret at being unable to deliver an address. Hon. Charles Francis Adams, invited to respond to the



GOVERNOR
W. C. C. CLAIBORNE.

toast, "The Historical Societies of the United States," wrote to Mr. W. O. Hart: "I regret extremely that this flattering invitation should have reached me at so late a date. I have been absent from home for the last ten days, and your letter arrived during that absence I pray you to accept my excuses, as also my assurance that I am greatly flattered by your invitation."

The Mayor of Quebec, Hon. Napoleon Drouin, writes a long and interesting letter, of which we may reproduce only a few phrases here: "Je ne puis assez vous remercier de l'honneur que vous m'avez fait en m'invitant à prendre part à cette démonstration organisée par votre Société Et c'est avec un véritable chagrin que je me vois forcé de renoncer au plaisir d'aller participer à vos réjouissances patriotiques Quelle que soit la distance entre la nouvelle Orléans et Québec, nous sentons en ces jours que la voix du sang parle au-dedans de nous,—qu'elle nous émeut,—qu'elle éveille en nos esprits et en nos coeurs le même sentiment; celui d'une parenté, d'une fraternité que n'ont pu affaiblir, encore moins faire oublier, ni les vicissitudes du temps, ni les déchirements de la séparation. C'est le Québec des anciens jours qui vous parle aujourd'hui par ma voix, et ce salut chaleureux et fraternel que je vous envoie, il part de Québec, de cette vieille capitale de la Nouvelle-France, qui fut pendant un siècle et demi le coeur et le centre vital d l'Empire colonial français rêvé par François I et Henri IV, ébauché par Louis XIV, et perdu par Louis XV, et qui embrassait les vallées immenses du St. Laurent, des Grands Lacs, de la Belle Rivière et du Mississippi."

Ambassador J. J. Jusserand, expressing his regret at not being able to attend, and appointing M. Francastel to represent him, wrote to Professor Fortier:

"Veuillez croire a mon très vif regret de n'être pas auprès de vous dans une si mémorable occasion. Le souvenir du charmant accueil que j'ai reçu des Louisianais lors de mon récent passage à la Nouvelle Orléans et lors de vos fêtes de 1903 arive mon regret de ne pas assister à des cérémonies dont je prévois l'intérêt et la beauté et qui, placées sous votre direction, sont dans les meilleures mains qui se puissent imaginer."

Space alone precludes further quotations from the courteous letters sent by prominent officials and others, many of them of great interest. But the selection made from the letters of some who

could not attend, with the mention of distinguished guests in a later part of the record, must suffice. The committee again return thanks to all for the co-operation which made possible a very successful celebration.

As the time for the celebration approached, the features of the programme took on more definite shape. Through the activity of our representatives in Congress, especially Hon. H. Garland Dupré, three warships, the "Nebraska," "New Hampshire," and "Petrel," with the revenue cutter "Windom," were in the harbor. With the men from these vessels and from the Federal troops at the Barracks in addition to State troops and other organizations, a military parade of imposing dimensions was arranged for and successfully carried out, the details being in the hands of a sub-committee. The impressive ceremonies at the Cabildo, with addresses by the President's representative, Secretary of State Knox, by Governor Brewer, of Mississippi, by Professor Fortier, and others, will be best recorded in the text of these addresses, for the most part given in full below. The enthusiasm of the vast crowd for the raising of the flag in Jackson Square by Miss Claiborne, descendant of the first Governor, unfortunately interrupted the pleasant address of Governor Brewer; but as he accepted so graciously apologies for the interruption at the time, we feel sure he will accept a renewed apology at this time.

The more purely social features of the programme were an elaborate banquet, report of which is given below, and a tour through the old quarter of the city on Wednesday, in which the guests were under the experienced guidance of Mr. T. P. Thompson, Professor Fortier, and other members of the Society, followed by an automobile ride to Chalmette and to other places of interest. Our thanks are due to Mr. Harry Sellers, committee on carriages, and to those who kindly offered the use of their automobiles for the occasion.

Mayor Behrman, Commissioner Pujol, Superintendent Gwinn, who had charge of the participation of the school children in the contest for a handsome medal offered by Judge Gunby, these and other public officials deserve the thanks of the committee for their assistance and co-operation.

The account of the parade, ceremonies at the Cabildo, and banquet at the Grunewald Hotel, was written by Mr. James M. Augustin, assistant secretary of the committee.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

GENERAL COMMITTEE

OF THE

LOUISIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

IN CHARGE OF CELEBRATING

THE ONE HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADMISSION OF LOUISIANA
AS A STATE IN THE UNION.

OFFICERS.

PROFESSOR ALCÉE FORTIER.....	Chairman
CHARLES T. SONIAT.....	Vice-Chairman
W. O. HART.....	Treasurer
CHARLES G. GILL.....	Secretary
JAMES M. AUGUSTIN.....	Assistant Secretary

MEMBERS.

George Augustin,	C. C. Duple,	Major Allison Owen,
James M. Augustin,	Col. H. J. de la Vergne,	General A. Perrilliat,
Capt. J. W. Bostick,	Prof. Alcée Fortier,	Col. A. T. Prescott,
Maj. N. E. Baumgarden,	Chas. G. Gil,	Hon. Alex Pujol,
Mayor Martin Behrman,	Judge A. A. Gunby,	Judge Henry Renshaw,
L. E. Bentley,	W. J. Gahan,	J. J. Rochester,
H. F. Baldwin,	Prof. H. M. Gill,	Harry Sellers,
Prof. Pierce Butler,	Robert Glenk,	Charles T. Sellers,
Hon. Joseph A. Breaux,	Prof. J. M. Gwinn	Hon. F. P. Stubbs, of
William Beer,	Hon. Emile Hoehn,	Monroe;
Hon. N. C. Blanchard,	W. O. Hart,	Governor J. Y. Sanders,
Charles F. Claiborne,	Col. James D. Hill,	S. Walter Stern,
Gaspar Cusachs,	Major S. A. Kephart,	T. P. Thompson,
John F. Couret,	U. S. A.;	M. B. Trezevant,
Dr. E. B. Craighead,	George Koppel,	W. J. Waguespack,
Capt. Charles H. Dan-	Dr. L. G. LeBeuf,	Prof. M. J. White,
forth, U. S. A.;	Alfred Livaudais,	Capt. T. J. Woodward,
Hon. H. Garland Dupré,	Dr. E. S. Lewis,	Col. Elmer E. Wood.
John Dymond, Sr.,	Jas. J. McLoughlin,	
Justin F. Denechaud,	H. Gibbes Morgan, Jr.	

SUB-COMMITTEES.

FINANCE.

T. P. THOMPSON.....	Chairman
J. F. DENECHAUD.....	Secretary
JOHN F. COURET.....	Treasurer

Charles F. Buck,	Sol. Wexler,	Emile Hoehn,
A. G. Ricks,	Edgar B. Stern,	E. A. Carrere,
L. C. Simon,	Sebastien Roy,	Lynn H. Dinkins,
Robert H. Marr,	John McCloskey,	Sam Blum,
Edgar H. Bright,	John B. Legier, Jr.,	William Agar.
T. S. Wilkinson,	J. B. Levert,	

PROGRAMME.

T. P. THOMPSON, Chairman.

Alcée Fortier,	Charles T. Soniat,	H. M. Gill,
	W. O. Hart.	

GENEALOGY.

COL. H. J. DE LA VERGNE, Chairman.

Gaspar Cusachs,	J. J. Rochester.
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SCHOOL CHILDREN.

PROF. J. M. GWINN, Chairman.

Dr. E. B. Craighead,	Chas. G. Gill,	W. J. Gahan,
Prof. Pierce Butler,	Col. A. T. Prescott,	Judge A. A. Gunby.

HISTORY EXHIBIT.

GASPAR CUSACHS, Chairman.

H. Gibbes Morgan, Jr.	S. Walter Stern,	Henry Renshaw,
Robert Glenk,	Joseph A. Breaux,	Alfred Livaudais.

MILITARY AND CIVIC PARADE.

MAJOR ALLISON OWEN, Chairman.

MAJOR N. E. BAUMGARDEN, Acting Chairman.

Major S. A. Kephart,	Capt. Chas H. Danforth,	Capt. J. W. Bostick.
U. S. A.;	J. J. McLoughlin,	
Gen. A. Perrilliat,	M. B. Trezevant,	

NAVAL PARADE.

CAPT. J. W. BOSTICK, Chairman.

Col. Elmer E. Wood,	Capt. T. J. Woodward,	C. C. Duble.
Hon. N. C. Blanchard,	Dr. E. S. Lewis,	

INVITATIONS.

W. O. HART, Chairman.

Mayor Martin Behrman,	Hon. H. Garland Dupré,	Dr. L. G. LeBeuf,
	Charles F. Claiborne.	

BANQUET.

CHARLES T. SONIAT, Chairman.

John Dymond, Sr.,	H. F. Baldwin,	W. O. Hart,
H. M. Gill,	William Beer,	Prof. Alcée Fortier.

CABILDO AND PLACE D'ARMES

HON. MARTIN BEHRMAN, Chairman.

J. J. McLoughlin,	H. Gibbes Morgan, Jr.	Col. H. J. de la Vergne.
George Koppel,	George Augustin,	Henry Renshaw,
Gaspar Cusachs,	Hon. Alex Pujol,	Maj. N. E. Baumgarten.

RECEPTION.

GENERAL A. PERRILLIAT, Chairman.

Officers and Members of the General Committee are Members of the Reception Committee.

MUSIC, BADGES AND DECORATIONS.

H. GIBBES MORGAN, Jr., Chairman.

C. K. Chalaron,
Pierce Butler,

Robert Glenk,
L. E. Bentley,
H. M. Gill.

J. F. Denechaud,
William Beer,

TRANSPORTATION.

GEORGE KOPPEL, Chairman.

Charles Marshall,

R. J. Anderson,
Rev. W. S. Slack.

J. O. Matthews,

PUBLICITY.

W. J. WAGUESPACK, Chairman.

M. B. Trezevant,
H. J. Seiferth,

T. P. Thompson,
W. O. Hart,

L. E. Bentley,
H. J. de la Vergne.

AUTOMOBILES, CARRIAGES AND HOTELS.

HARRY W. SELLERS, Chairman.

H. M. Gill,

W. O. Hart,
Gen. A. Perrilliat.

W. J. Gahan,

INVITATIONS TO COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF NEW ORLEANS.

JUDGE A. A. GUNBY, of Monroe, Chairman.

Col. A. T. Prescott,

Prof. J. M. Gwinn,
Ex-Governor N. C. Blanchard.

Hon. F. P. Stubbs,

INVITATION TO MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

WM. BEER, Chairman.

T. P. Thompson,

Prof. M. J. White,

Prof. Pierce Butler.

MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

CALLED, NOVEMBER 4TH, 1811.

Constitution Adopted, January 22nd, 1812.

JULIEN POYDRAS, President.

J. D. DEGOUTIN BELLECHASSE,

J. BLANQUE,

T. J. LEBRETON D'ORGENOY,

MGRE. GUICHARD,

S. HENDERSON,

DENIS DELARONDE,

F. LIVAUDAIS,

B. MARIGNY,

THOMAS URQUHART,

JACQUES VILLERE,

JOHN WATKINS,

SAMUEL WINTER,

Of the County of Orleans.

S. HIRIAT,

Of the County of Pointe Coupee.

R. HALL,

LEVI WELLS,

THOS. F. OLIVIER,

Of the County of Rapides.

P. BOISSIER,

J. PRUD'HOMME,

Of the County of Natchitoches.

JAMES BROWN,

JEAN NOEL DESTREHAN,

ALEXANDER LABRANCHE,

Of the German Coast.

JAMES DUNLAP,

DAVID B. MORGAN,

Of the County of Concordia.

MICHEL CANTRELLE,

J. M. REYNAUD,

GENEZI ROUSSIN,

Of the County of Acadia.

HENRY BRY,

Of the County of Ouachita.

AMANT HEBERT,

WILLIAM WIKOFF, JR.,

Of the County of Iberville.

ALLAN B. MAGRUDER,

D. J. SUTTON,

JOHN THOMPSON,

Of the County of Opelousas.

WILLIAM GOFORTH,

BELA HUBBARD, JR.,

PIERRE BEAUCHET ST. MARTIN,

H. S. THIBODAUX,

Of the County of Lafourche.

LOUIS DE BLANC,

HENRY JOHNSON,

W. C. MAQUILLE,

CHAS. OLIVIER,

ALEXANDER PORTER,

Of the County of Attakapas.

ELIGIUS FROMENTIN,

Secretary of the Convention.

The Convention was Held in the Tremoulet House, situated at the
Corner of St. Peter and Levee Streets.

CONSTITUTIONS OF LOUISIANA.

1812—	Convention Called,	November 4, 1811...	Adjourned,	January 28, 1812
1845—	"	"	August 5, 1844.....	" May 14, 1845
1852—	"	"	July 5, 1852.....	" July 31, 1852
1861—	"	"	January 23, 1861..	" March 26, 1861
1864—	"	"	April 6, 1864.....	" July 23, 1864
1868—	"	"	November 23, 1867...	" March 9, 1868
1879—	"	"	April 21, 1879.....	" July 23, 1879
1898—	"	"	February 8, 1898....	" May 12, 1898

By Act of Congress of April 8, 1812, Louisiana was admitted into the
Union, to take effect April 30, 1812.

The first Legislature under the Constitution of 1812 assembled June 27, 1812.

The first officials of the State of Louisiana were:

WM. C. C. CLAIBORNE, Governor.

JULIEN POYDRAS, President of the Senate.

P. B. ST. MARTIN, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

J. MONTEGUT, Treasurer.

L. B. MACARTY, Secretary of State.

T. B. ROBERTSON, Representative in Congress.

A. B. MAGRUDER, J. N. DESTREHAN (Declined), and THOS. POSEY,
United States Senators.

HALL, MATHEWS and DERBIGNY, Judges of the Supreme Court.

GOVERNORS OF LOUISIANA.

FRENCH.

1699—Iberville, *Founder*.

1699—Sauvole.

1701—Bienville.

1713—Lamothe-Cadillac.

1717—De l'Epinay.

1718—Bienville.

1724—Boisbriant, *ad interim*.

1726—Perier.

1733—Bienville.

1743—Vaudreuil.

1753—Kerlerec.

1763—D'Abbadie.

1765—Aubry.

1803—Laussat, *Colonial Prefect*.

SPANISH.

1765—Ulloa.

1769—O'Reilly.

1769—Unzaga.

1776—Galvez.

1785—Miro.

1791—Carondelet.

1797—Gayoso de Lemos.

1799—Casa Calvo.

1801—Salcedo.

AMERICAN.

1803—Wm. C. C. Claiborne.

1812—Wm. C. C. Claiborne.

1816—Jacques P. Villere.

1820—Thos. B. Robertson.

1824—Henry S. Thibodeaux.

1824—Henry Johnson.

1828—Pierre Derbigny.

1829—Armand Beauvais.

1930—Jacques Dupre.

1831—Andrew B. Roman.

1835—Edward D. White.

1839—Andrew E. Roman.

1843—Alexander Mouton.

1846—Isaac Johnson.

1850—Joseph Walker.

1853—Paul O. Hebert.

1856—Robt. C. Wickliffe.

1860—Thos. O. Moore.

1862—George F. Shepley.

1864—Henry W. Allen.

1864—Michael Hahn.

1865—J. Madison Wells.

1867—Benj. F. Flanders.

1868—Joshua Baker.

1868—Henry C. Warmouth.

1873—John McEnery, *de jure*.

1873—W. P. Kellogg, *de facto*.

1877—Francis T. Nicholls.

1880—Louis T. Wiltz.

1881—Samuel D. McEnery.

1888—Francis T. Nichols.

1892—Murphy J. Foster.

1900—W. W. Heard.

1904—Newton C. Blanchard.

1908—J. Y. Sanders.

1912—L. E. Hall.

CELEBRATION, BY THE LOUISIANA HISTORICAL
SOCIETY, OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE ADMISSION OF LOUISIANA
INTO THE UNION OF STATES.

NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, APRIL THIRTIETH, 1912.

THE PROGRAMME.

10:30 A. M.—Carriages with guests, escorted by committee, leave hotels.

11:00 A. M.—Reception at Mayor's parlor of guests and general committee; welcome by Mayor and Governor.

12:15 P. M.—Carriages will convey guests, State and city officials and committee to warships at head of Jackson avenue, leaving City Hall at 12:15.

1:45 P. M.—Guests, including officers of war vessels and officials, escorted by reception committee, will re-assemble in front of the City Hall, at 1:45 P. M. to join parade.

NOTE—Carriages will be at constant service of guests from 10:30 A. M. Each carriage will be under control of a committee member.

2 00 P. M.—Military Parade: Governor and staff, Mayor and members of City Council, guests and committee will join parade at Lafayette Square, at 2:00 p. m., and proceed up St. Charles to Lee Statue, down Camp to Canal, to Rampart, to Chartres, to Cabildo.

3:00 P. M.—Review of parade from Cabildo and grand stand; guests, speakers and committee.

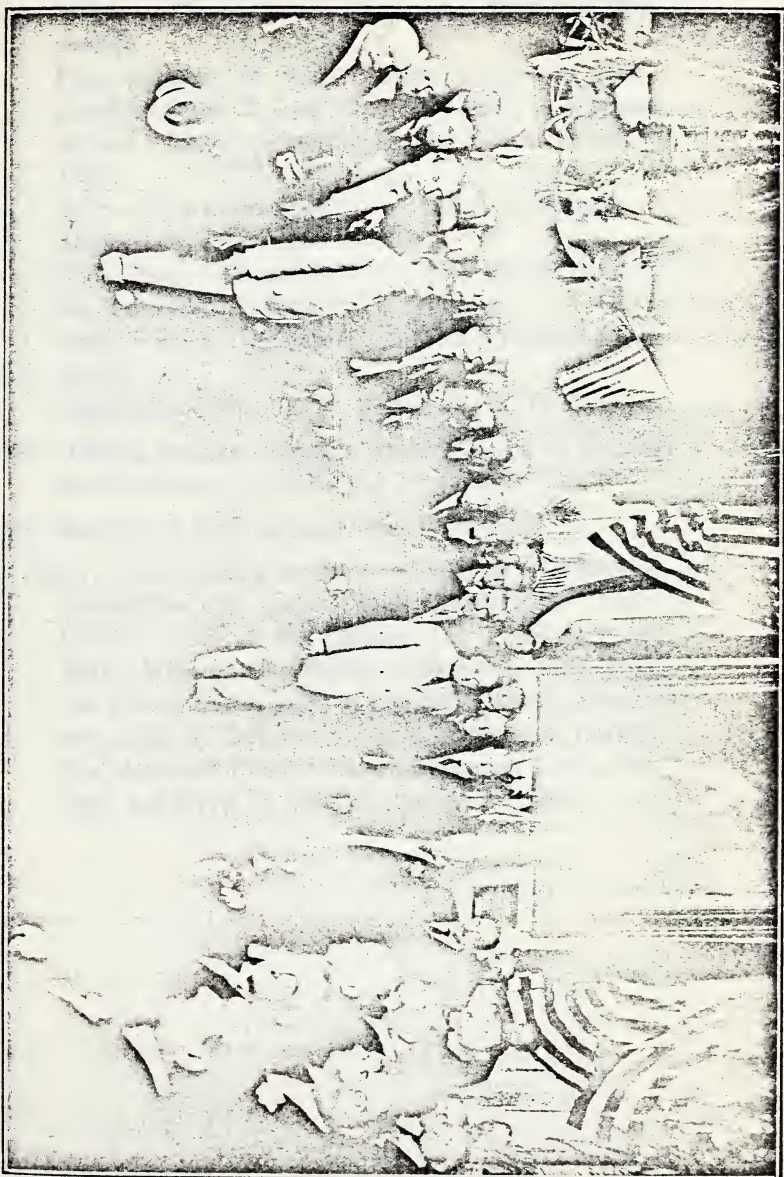
His Excellency, Gov. J. Y. Sanders, presiding.

Invocation—Most Rev. James H. Blenk, Archbishop of New Orleans.

Address of Welcome—Gov. Sanders.

Welcome to City of New Orleans—Mayor Martin Behrman.

Address—Hon. Philander C. Knox, Secretary of State of the United States, representing the President.



RECEPTION IN THE MAYOR'S PARLOR.

Oration—Dr. Alcée Fortier, president Louisiana Historical Society.

Song—"Louisiana," by school children.

Address—"Sister States," Gov. Earl Brewer, of Mississippi.

Flag Raising—By Miss Clarisse Claiborne, great-granddaughter of first State Governor, in Jackson Square (Place d'Armes), United States colors of 1812.

Song—"Stars and Stripes," by school children.

Salute—By Washington Artillery.

Prize Essay—"Louisiana," by Miss Emily Dinwiddie. Presentation, Judge A. A. Gunby.

Song—"Dixie," by school children assembled in square.

Benediction—Rev. R. F. Coupland, D. D.

5:00 P. M.—Official opening Louisiana State Museum of History and Commerce; Cabildo and Presbytère.

8:00 P. M.—Banquet in Gold Room, Hotel Grunewald.

Wednesday (noon).—Assembling at Grunewald Hotel of Reception Committee and guests. Walk through the "Vieux Carré." Stop at the Cabildo and Presbytère and State Museum Buildings. Automobile ride from the United States Mint to Chalmette Battle Ground, returning via Delgado Museum, City Park, Carrollton, Audubon Park, Tulane University, Loyola College, and down St. Charles Avenue to hotels.

PROCLAMATIONS OF GOVERNOR AND MAYOR.

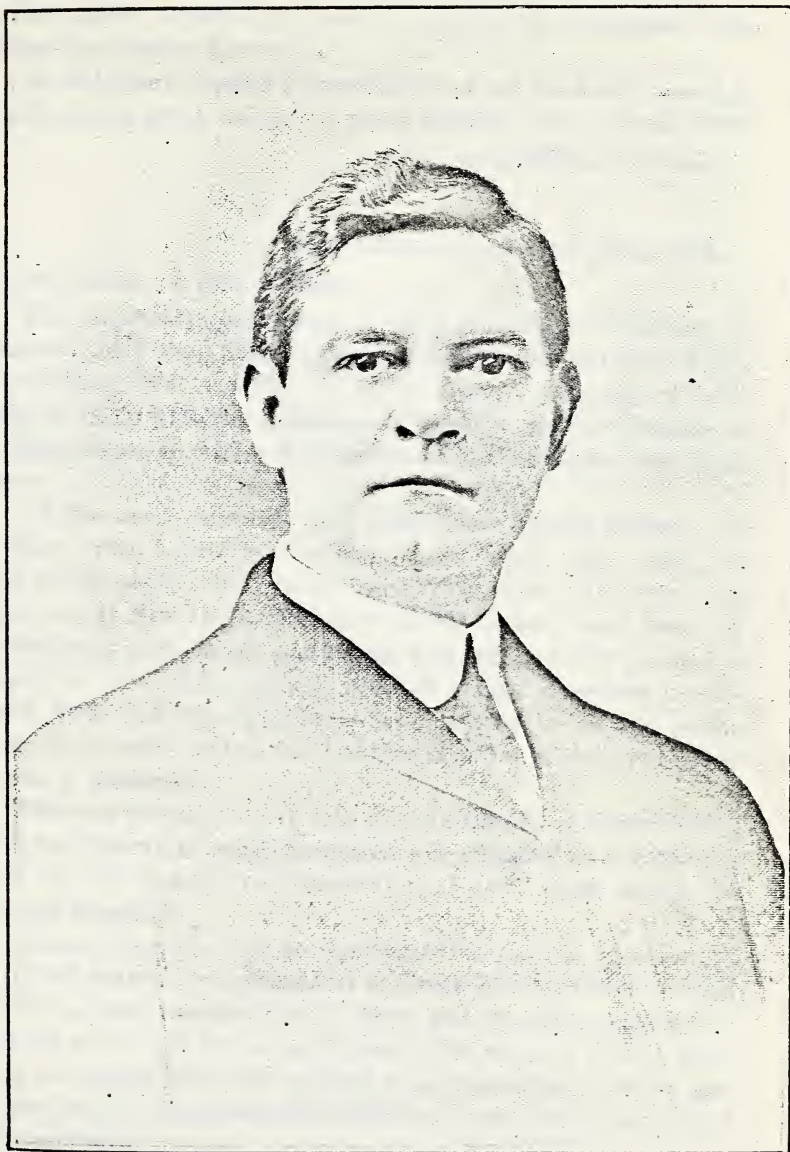
Executive Department, State of Louisiana.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, One hundred years ago that portion of the original Louisiana Purchase which in 1804 had been formed by Congress into the Territory of Orleans, having adopted a constitution under an enabling act of the Congress of the United States, was ready for statehood; and, on April 8, 1812, President James Madison signed an act admitting Louisiana, the name being restored, to the sisterhood of states, the act to take effect April 30—the ninth anniversary of the treaty of the cession from France—and on that day Louisiana became the eighteenth state and the first state west of the Mississippi River, and the first state to be carved out of the Louisiana Purchase Territory, since which time twelve other states have been admitted, making the number of states formed from the original Louisiana, acquired from France, the same as those which formed the United States of America in 1789. The area covered by these thirteen states is over one million square miles of territory, and their population by the census of 1910 was almost eighteen millions. This vast empire, embracing nearly one-third of the area of the United States, had as one of its effects the free navigation of the Mississippi River, forever securing to the people of the United States an outlet to the sea for the products of the great and fertile valley.

Whereas, To commemorate the centennial of this great historical event with appropriate ceremonies, the General Assembly of the state adopted act 107 of 1910, directing the Louisiana Historical Society to prepare a suitable programme therefor, and the society has undertaken the work, and is actively completing the arrangements for the celebration.

Therefore, I, Jared Young Sanders, Governor of the State of Louisiana, considering the importance of this anniversary in the history of our beloved state, do issue this, my proclamation, asking all patriotic Louisianians to observe this anniversary in some form throughout the state, and that as many as possible join in the great celebration which will take place in the city of New Orleans on April 30 next, and to the end that all may properly join in the celebration, and particularly the children of the public schools, I hereby request that the day be made a holiday in all the schools of



GOVERNOR JARED Y. SANDERS.

the state, and so far as is compatible with public affairs, that the business of the state, parishes and municipalities be suspended, so that all public officers may assist in making the celebration the success the occasion deserves.

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the state, this 6th day of April, 1912.

J. Y. SANDERS, Governor.

New Orleans, La., April 10th, 1912.

To the Citizens of New Orleans:

The centennial anniversary of the admission of Louisiana as a State of the United States will be celebrated on April 30th, 1912, in accordance with Act No. 107 of the General Assembly of Louisiana of 1910, with the assistance of the city of New Orleans in its official capacity, under the auspices of the Louisiana Historical Society.

All the ceremonies will be presided over by the Governor of the State, who, by his proclamation, dated April 6th, 1912, has asked all the people of the state to participate, those not able to come to the city of New Orleans being requested to have some form of celebration at their homes, and he has directed, in so far as same is compatible with public business, that all official functions be dispensed with, and also that there be a holiday in all the public schools of the state, and in this I concur in so far as the city of New Orleans is concerned.

The main celebration will take place in the city of New Orleans, which was the capital when Louisiana was admitted as a state, and where sat the Constitution Convention of 1811 under which the state was organized.

Among those who will be represented will be the President of the United States, the ambassadors of Great Britain, France, Brazil and Mexico, and the ministers of Spain and the other republics of America; and to add to the importance of the occasion three United States war vessels have been ordered to our harbor and a naval parade, unequalled in the history of this State, is contemplated as part of the proceedings.

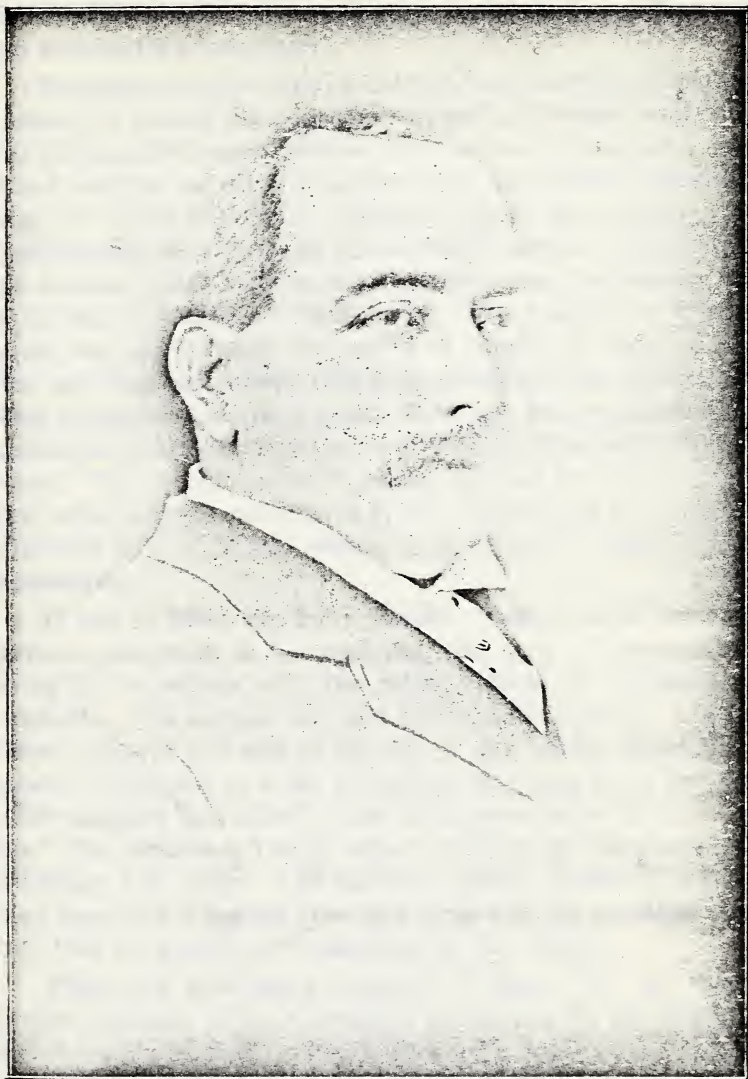
I, therefore, enjoin upon the people of this city, that they assist in the celebration in every way, and that business houses so ar-

range their affairs as to allow their employes, as far as possible, to participate therein, and I ask the private and parochial schools of the city to join with the public schools in giving a holiday to all the children so that as many as can do so may take part in the great event and learn of the glory and history of our state.

The committee in charge has made special arrangements for the children at the Jackson Square, and their attendance, as future citizens of this state and our great country, will add much to the charm of the celebration and its completeness. No state of the Union has a greater future before it than Louisiana, and in caring for the present and working for the future, we must not forget the glories of the past; because "if we are not true to the memories of the past, we cannot be true to ourselves," and "monuments are a debt which posterity owes to history."

I hope that the coming celebration may be the means of placing on foot the work of erecting in this city some great monuments to those who established Louisiana and founded New Orleans.

MARTIN BEHRMAN, Mayor.



MAYOR MARTIN BEHRMAN.

THE PARADE.

The parade was the most elaborate, brilliant and successful display of military and civic organizations that has been witnessed in New Orleans for a long time.

Thousands of people lined the streets, and crowded at doors and windows, to admire the magnificent parade, in which were to be seen distinguished representatives from our own country and from abroad; and the sailors and marines from the United States warships, the State militiamen, infantry, cavalry and artillery, and the stalwart soldiers from the United States barracks. Many stores and business houses and private residences were handsomely decorated for the occasion. Canal street, from Rampart to Decatur streets, was appropriately "en fête" with trophies of flags and banners, and long vari-colored streamers extending from post to post along the spacious neutral ground. Each post was ornamented with escutcheons and intermingled colors of France, Spain and the United States. The decorations were greatly admired by the multitude. They were designed and ordered by the committee of the Louisiana Historical Society, on Decorations, of which Mr. H. Gibbes Morgan is chairman.

It was an ideal day for a parade. Nature smiled upon the patriotic celebration in her most charming garb. It was such a spring day as perhaps only the balmy climate of Louisiana can vouchsafe. The heavens were fair and in smiling mood. A gentle breeze tempered the rays of the orb of day, which blazed like a gigantic oriflamme in a sky of spotless blue, save for a few tiny, fleecy cloudlets that sailed across the expanse above the city "en fête," like miniature Viking ships, of which the folk-lore of the Nibelungs have sung. And the pure, bracing breath of the east wind came like a benison from the Creator to the countless multitude that was greeting the centennial of their State.

Under the experienced direction of Major N. E. Baumgarten, chairman of the Committee on Parade, the big procession moved exactly on time, and with clock-work precision and regularity at the appointed hour up St. Charles street to Lee Circle, then out Howard Avenue to Camp to Canal, upper side of Canal street to Basin, lower side of Canal to Chartres, and down Chartres to the Cabildo. Canal street was crowded with people. It seemed as

if Carnival times were at hand. Both sides of the boulevard, and the neutral ground were congested with a vast throng.

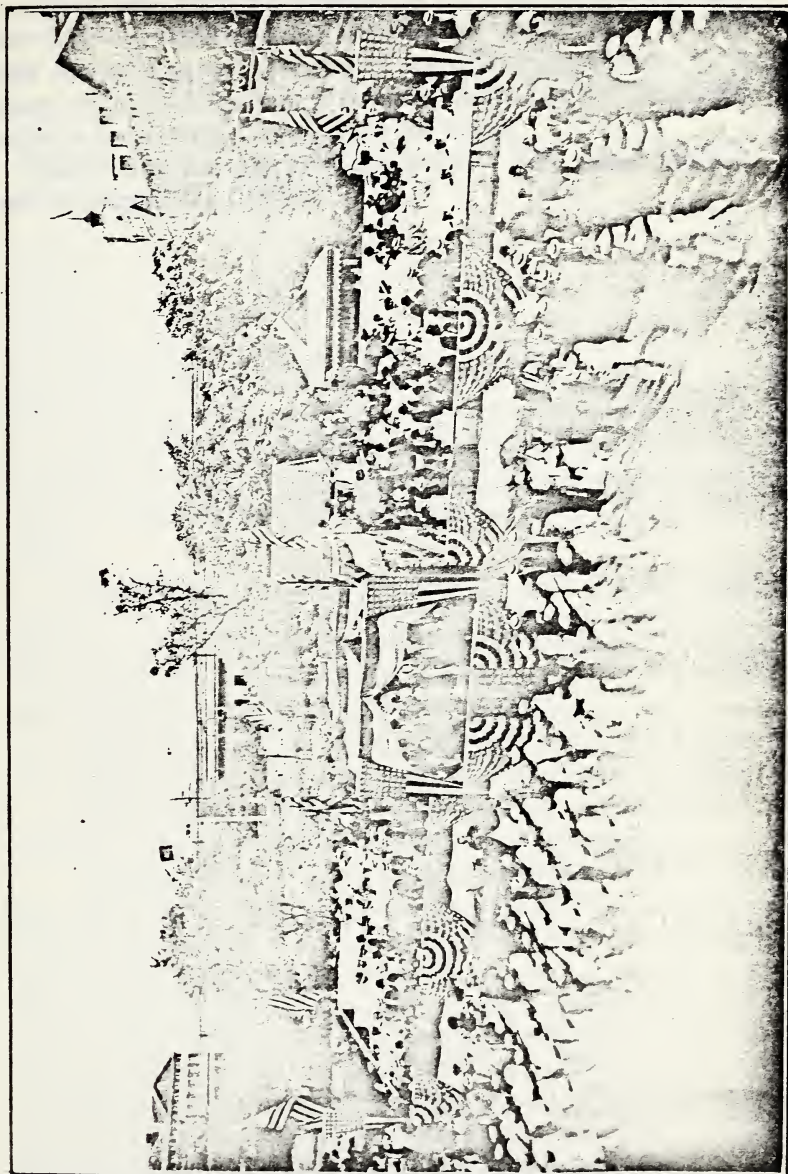
The first division was headed by a large squad of mounted policemen, with Capt. Capo commanding, and police officers afoot, followed by Paoletti's celebrated band of music whose members wore Hussar uniforms. Then came a long line of carriages with visitors and guests. In the first carriage sat Governor Sanders and Secretary Knox; others conveyed the diplomatic and foreign representatives, and next, a carriage with Mayor Behrman, Prof. Fortier, Capt. Oliver and Mr. Chas. T. Soniat. Another vehicle bore Governor Clark, of Alaska; Capt. Wood, commander of the battleship Nebraska; Captain J. Wallace Bostwick and General A. Perrilliat. Members of the Reception Committee, escorting guests, followed in the last line of carriages.

The second division was composed of the military and naval contingent, headed by Col. Joseph Kantz, grand marshal, and his aids. Col. Kantz commanding the Second Regiment of Infantry, Louisiana State National Guard, is the senior ranking officer of the State militia.

The band from Louisiana State University was next in line, preceding the splendid detail of four companies of United States regulars from the Jackson Barracks, under command of Major S. A. Klephart.

The combined bands of the New Hampshire and the Nebraska came next and, following them, there marched two companies of marines and seven companies of sailors from the warships, the marines in khaki and the sailors in white uniforms. They were commanded by Lieutenant-Commander Larimer, of the Nebraska, Lieutenant-Commander Dismukes and Lieutenant Vernon.

The soldiers of the Second Regiment, Louisiana State National Guard, led by Major Bryson Vallas, were followed by the Louisiana Field Artillery. A detachment of the Jefferson Guards, under Captain Hock, marched ahead of the Washington Artillery, with four guns, preceding the marines and bluejackets of the Louisiana Naval Reserves, commanded by Lieutenant Carpenter. Troop A, of the cavalry in full dress uniform, worn for the first time on this occasion, was headed by Major Froman, and they were followed by the Rugby Cadets and the American Boy Scouts, who paraded with the band of boy musicians from the Jewish Orphans' Home. Troop B of the cavalry closed the procession.



SAILORS FROM U. S. BATTLESHIPS.

The guests occupying carriages in the first division descended from their conveyances at the Cabildo, and assisted, with the Governor and officers and members of the celebrating Society, in the review of the parade, that, proceeding down Chartres street, disbanded a few squares further down the street.

Sailors and marines presented arms as they passed the platform in front of the Cabildo.

CEREMONIES AT THE CABILDO.

The venerable Cabildo and the equally ancient and historic St. Louis Cathedral and Place d'Armes (now Jackson Square), were encompassed by the densest mass of people that has congregated in that part of the "Vieux Carré" for many a year past.

As the proceedings were begun from the decorated and spacious platform erected along Jackson Square sidewalk, in front of the Cabildo, the crowd was so large, extending from St. Peter street to beyond the Cathedral, that not an inch of free space could be seen. Under the arcade of the Cabildo several hundreds of children from the public schools who were to take part in the singing of patriotic airs, were congregated, and every pupil was provided with a chair.

The edifice itself reveled in profuse and appropriate decorations, and the balconies were filled with pretty feminine onlookers, whose spring costumes made an exquisite effect on the brilliant scene.

The platform was occupied by about two hundred people—officers and members of the Louisiana Historical Society, officers and members of the general committee on centennial celebration, having charge of scores of distinguished guests, who were given seats of honor in the middle of the big platform.

After the parade had been reviewed by the Governor and guests, the exercises began under the presidency of Governor Sanders.

His Excellency presented Most Reverend Archbishop J. H. Blenk, of New Orleans, who delivered the opening prayer:

"Eternal Father, upon Whom all the people of our Nation, State and City depend, when we commemorate the divine blessing that came to this commonwealth by its admission into the glorious Republic of the United States, one hundred years ago, we thank Thee for all the gifts and blessings, and for life and health, and for the guidance that Thou hast vouchsafed on the highway of civilization, and in the progress that has been made in a nation, great, mighty, and deserving of Thy protection. As in the past, Thou hast guided, and for all time led us along the pathway of honor, peace and righteousness, so, we beseech Thee, this blessed day to renew, with divine abundance, from Thy throne in Heaven, all we need to glorify Thee, and to make us a commonwealth of honor in this great Republic upon which Thy benisons so sweetly and steadfastly are felt.

"O cause us, and all Thy people who rejoice under the flag of the United States, to remain faithful to Thy divine will.

"Bless, we pray Thee, the Nation and the State, the President of these United States, the Governor of this fair State, the Mayor of this beautiful city, and give us Thy divine protection, so that our path be ever that of honor, and of everything that glorifies Thee, and dignifies the human race. Amen."

Governor Sanders welcomed the vast throng and the guests.

The Governor made one of his most eloquent addresses, inspired, no doubt by the historic theme, and by the enthusiasm of the multitude. He said:

"History was written large for the Western hemisphere, when one hundred years ago the needs of Napoleon, and the far-sightedness of Thomas Jefferson, added to the American Union the vast territory known as Louisiana. When we reflect that the first act almost, of the National government was imposing upon us the indignity of losing our name itself and becoming 'The Territory of Orleans,' we see the beginning of one hundred years of difficulties and misunderstandings, that have often been our lot.

"Iberville's boat, in which he won success on the lakes of Canada, was named the 'Pelican.'

"The first Governor of Louisiana, when he entered the mouth of the great river in 1699, brought with him the spirit of Louisiana, as indicated by its coat-of-arms, the 'Pelican,' a willingness to suffer that posterity may benefit.

"Josiah Quincy, representing Massachusetts, with all her traditions, her pride of accomplishment, her strife for liberty in the days of '76, did not want the sisterhood of States to cross the Mississippi; and the stalwart Josiah Quincy, representing that great commonwealth, in our National halls of Congress, announced a doctrine strange then—dead now—to the American people: The doctrine of secession. For, he warned his fellow-members of the Federal Congress that if they insisted upon giving statehood to what he was pleased to call an alien people, speaking a foreign tongue, who, by birthright and struggle had not earned the right of sovereignty and of statehood and the blessings of American self-government, Massachusetts would withdraw from the Union.

"From his lips the nation first heard the word 'secession,' and, some fifty years later, our fathers followed this statesman's inter-

pretation of the Constitution of the United States, and withdrew from the Union, and then it was that two other sons of Massachusetts, Butler and Banks, with their legions of the North, proved to Louisiana's sons, the hollowness of the doctrines first enunciated by Josiah Quincy.

"Was the eighteenth star to be of the first magnitude? Less than three years had New England to wait for her answer.

"On January 8th, 1815, was fought the greatest battle that had yet drenched our land with blood; and the battle of New Orleans was the greatest military triumph that had yet graced American arms.

"So great and overwhelming was that victory, that it, far more than the Treaty of Ghent, forever settled all differences between the mother country and her former colonists.

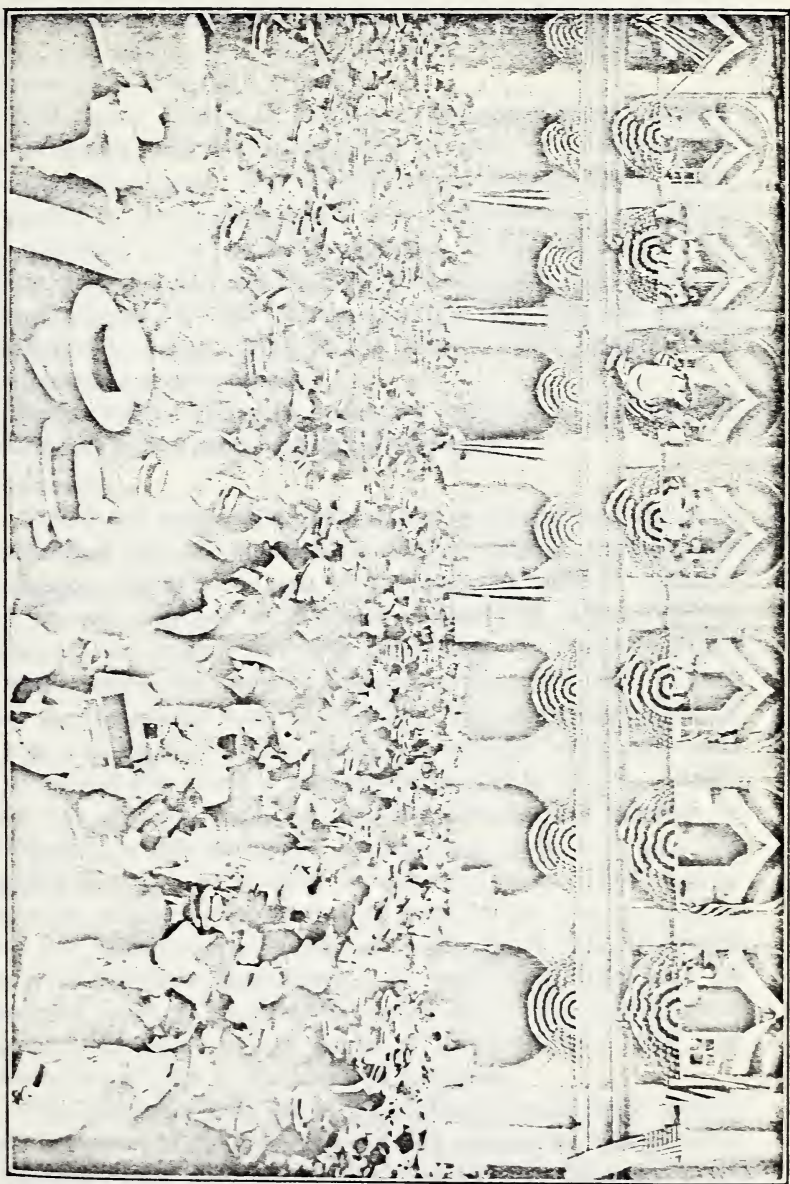
"On that day, the men of Louisiana answered the charge made by Josiah Quincy, some three years before, that they were unworthy of statehood, that they were an alien people, speaking a foreign tongue, by furnishing over one-half of the total of Jackson's army, which humbled the pride of Great Britain, and defeated the Peninsular troops that were a part of the army which, six months later vanquished the mighty Napoleon himself.

"When our country came to battle with Mexico, her sons freely offered up their blood on the altar of their country. Zachary Taylor, of Louisiana, was the one great hero of that war, and, in recognition of his services, the nation conferred upon him the highest dignity.

"One hundred years since the acquisition of Louisiana, and in that time Louisiana has given to the nation thirteen great commonwealths—an empire in itself. An hundred years of statehood, and Louisiana's record, the services of her sons, need only be recounted to qualify us, today, as being worthy of those honors which Josiah Quincy had declared would cause the disruption of the Union.

"Bienville's foresight located the future commercial capital of the Mississippi Valley just where it should have been; and, with the opening up of the Panama Canal the next one hundred years will bring to Louisiana, and the Mississippi Valley, a prosperity such as no section of the world has yet enjoyed.

"In the hundred years of our statehood, ours has not always



FRONT OF THE CABILDO DURING THE CELEBRATION.

been a bed of roses. Louisiana has suffered by the heavy hand of war; floods and epidemics have been our lot, sometimes; but, through it all, the indomitable spirit of our people has ever found the way, and, today there is not, and cannot be any question as to the future of so American a people.

"The second century of Louisiana's statehood starts off with promises bright, and with possibilities so great as to stagger the very imagination itself. The opening of the Panama Canal; Federal control of the flood situation; the elimination of all danger from epidemics in the future; reclamation of our wet lands; the building of good roads, and the tide of immigration that is turning our way will make the star in our country's flag, that answers to the name of Louisiana, shine, in the years to come, brighter than that of any of her sister States."

Mayor Martin Behrman spoke the welcome to the City of New Orleans to the many distinguished guests.

He said:

"I need not assure this distinguished gathering how deeply I am impressed with the significance of this occasion. Carried back in retrospect through the vista of a century to another occasion which brought together on this spot a great and enthusiastic assemblage, I see another imposing ceremonial, the result of which has made possible the event we celebrate to-day. We look in vain to-day for the kindly faces of those who were most conspicuous in the events of that day and to whom this occasion would have been one of unspeakable pleasure were they permitted to be here. Gladly would they give the wealth of the Golcondas for the privilege of participating in this ceremony; of mingling again with their old comrades in arms and brothers in self-sacrifice and peril; and to witness the miracles wrought in that cause for the greater glory of which they rallied on this sacred spot on the day of which this is the never-to-be-forgotten anniversary. It surely must have been an interesting ceremony that added another star to the brilliant constellation that makes up the States of this invincible union, and which to-day glitters to the name of Louisiana.

"The Governor tells us in his eloquent proclamation calling public attention to the importance of this celebration, that as many as thirteen States were carved from the territory included in the Jefferson purchase. If ever cordial friendship, warm affection and

devoted attachment be possible among separate communities, it should surely exist between the people of these thirteen States. If there be such a thing as a common bond uniting these prosperous commonwealths that bond is the City of New Orleans which was the capital of the vast area which now comprises these thirteen States, and was the Mecca for the people of all the teeming valley whose unrivalled water way carried its abundant products to the sea. Divisions may spring up, ill blood may burn, opposing parties be formed and interests may clash, but the ties which unite these thirteen States and this old city are particularly strong in their relation to the past—strong in the deeds of the distinguished men to whom Louisiana and her sister States owe their origin, growth and development and in which all have a common patrimony. In like spirit I take pleasure in extending to you in behalf of its people, a generous welcome to this old city, with the assurance that you will find it no less hospitable, and far more interesting, than those who preceded you one hundred years ago.”

Hon. Philander C. Knox, Secretary of State of the United States, was introduced by Governor Sanders as “the representative of President Taft, and one of the greatest men of the country.”

Mr. Knox humorously remarked, before making his address, that President Taft had selected him because he represented him in size. And as Mr. Knox is of medium size and build, and President Taft is physically very large, the remark was greeted with laughter, in which the distinguished visitor heartily joined.

Mr. Knox was frequently applauded and his eloquent tribute to Louisiana was mightily cheered.

Secretary of State Knox spoke on the Centennial's significance as follows:

“Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen—When our forefathers in their wisdom formed ‘a more perfect union,’ the domain of the United States was bounded on the west by a vast empire belonging to the sovereignty of Spain, which was transferred by Spain to France in 1800.

“Looking with far-sighted vision into the future and with a keen appreciation of the importance of having an outlet to the sea for the settlers and for the produce of the Mississippi Valley, Jefferson, not without a misgiving as to its constitutionality, seized the opportunity presented by the exigencies of European politics

to acquire this immense territory by the treaty of 1803 with France. Thus was consummated the cheapest real estate transaction recorded in history, and one which in its results has fulfilled the prophesy of the French negotiator that the cession of Louisiana 'interests vast regions that will become by their civilization and power the rivals of Europe before another century passes.' Well might Robert R. Livingston exclaim after the signature of the treaty, 'We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our whole lives.' At the time of this cession the population of the United States numbered less than 6,000,000 souls. To-day more than 92,000,000 find their homes within its confines. Out of the wilderness acquired from France have been formed thirteen great states, having by our last census an estimated population of nearly 18,000,000 against an estimated population of 50,000 at the time of the cession. Not the least of these states and the first to be admitted as a state into the Union is the present state of Louisiana.

"While giving to Jefferson all the honor due him in the transaction, and it must be recognized that it required courage to take the patriotic action that he did, still we can hardly suppose that it taxed the wisdom or his statesmanship to foresee the necessity of acquiring the Louisiana territory for the United States and of assuring to its citizens forever control of the Mississippi River; for events aside from European politics were shaping to make the final action inevitable. During more than twenty years the Americans had asserted as an incontestable right the free navigation of the Mississippi River to the sea. It was indispensable to the success of the large immigration that had peopled the region west of the Alleghenies that the settlers there should have an outlet through the mouth of the Mississippi to the markets of the world.

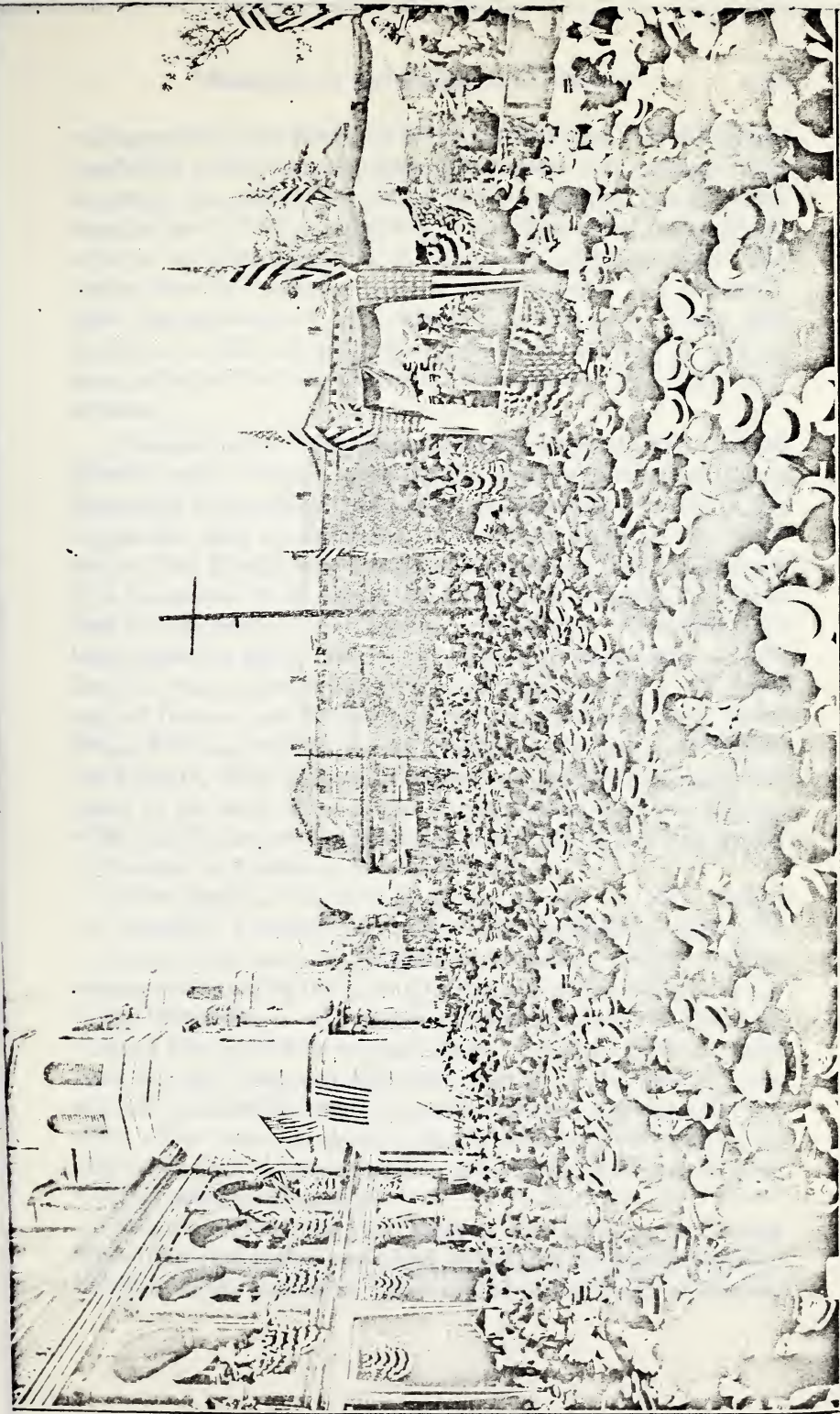
"By the treaty of San Lorenzo el Real of Oct. 27, 1795, the boundary between the United States and the Spanish colony of Louisiana was fixed in the middle of the channel or bed of the Mississippi River from our then northern boundary to the thirty-first degree of north latitude. The navigation of the Mississippi in its whole breadth, from its source to the ocean was made free to citizens of the United States. They were permitted for the space of three years to deposit their merchandise and effects in the port of New Orleans and to export them thence, and Spain promised either

to continue this permission or to assign to American citizens an equivalent establishment at another place on the banks of the Mississippi.

"The operation of this grant was not interrupted at the expiration of the three years, but continued in force by tacit agreement until on Oct. 16, 1802, the Spanish intendant by proclamation declared that the right of deposit no longer existed.

"The inhabitants west of the Alleghenies and east of the Mississippi at that time were said to exceed 80,000. Excluded by natural barriers and lack of communication and transportation from the markets of the east and now by the intendant's order deprived of their only means of exporting their produce, they saw in prospect their products rotting and their own inevitable ruin unless the Federal government should come to their assistance. The president and the Congress were beset with petitions and statements of grievances. Threats were made that if no aid was received from the government the people themselves would be obliged by necessity 'to adopt themselves the measures that may appear to them calculated to protect their commerce,' even though these measures should produce consequences unfavorable to the harmony of the Confederacy: 'The Mississippi is ours,' they said (I quote from Marbois, the French negotiator), 'by the law of nature; it belongs to us by our numbers, and by the labor which we have bestowed on those spots which, before our arrival were desert and barren. Our innumerable rivers swell it and flow with it into the gulf sea. Its mouth is the only issue which nature has given to our waters, and we wish to use it for our vessels. No power in the world shall deprive us of this right. We do not prevent the Spanish and the French from ascending the river to our towns and villages. We wish in our turn to descend it without any interruption to its mouth, to ascend it again and exercise our privilege of trading on it and navigating it at our pleasure. If our most entire liberty in this matter is disputed, nothing shall prevent our taking possession of the capital; and when we are once masters of it, we shall know how to maintain ourselves there. If Congress refuses us effectual protection, if it forsakes us, we will adopt the measures which our safety requires, even if they endanger the peace of the Union and our connection with the other states. No protection, no allegiance!"

"The treaty with France was signed on April 30, 1803, and



CHURCH STREET DURING THE CELEBRATION

was approved by the Senate on Oct. 28 of that year. On the following day the ratifications of the two governments were exchanged and the treaty was publicly proclaimed by the President. Less than two months later the French flag was hauled down from the territory, never to be raised again, and in its place the glorious Stars and Stripes went up, never, let us hope, to be replaced. On March 26, 1804, was approved an act creating the territory of Orleans, and by the act of Feb. 20, 1811, the people of the territory of Orleans were authorized to form themselves a constitution and state government.

"Meanwhile, in 1810, Captain George Depasson and Captain Thomas, with 120 men, captured the Spanish garrison at Baton Rouge and a provisional government was established by the people and on the 29th of September, 1810, an act declaring 'the territory of West Florida to be a free and independent state,' was passed by a convention of the people. By direction of Congress the President took possession of the province, and on Dec. 7 Governor Claiborne raised the flag of the United States at St. Francisville. A little later the whole district was by proclamation annexed to the territory of Orleans and divided into the six parishes of East Baton Rouge, Feliciana, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Pascagoula and Biloxi. On April 14, 1812, an act of Congress was approved enlarging the limits of the state of Louisiana by the inclusion of the parishes of the district between the Mississippi and Pearl Rivers, thus giving to the state of Louisiana its present limits.

"The people of the territory having on Jan. 22, 1812, formed for themselves a constitution and a state government, and given to the state the name of the State of Louisiana, Congress, by an act approved April 8, 1812, declared the state of Louisiana to be one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original states. It was not, however, until April 30, 1812, 100 years ago today, that by its final provision the act took force and the state of Louisiana entered into that galaxy of states whose luster has grown with the years and will continue to shine undimmed so long as popular government shall rest on good, wise and patriotic citizenship.

"For more than 120 years prior to the cession to the United States, the vast region comprised within the Louisiana purchase had been in the possession alternately of either Spain or France.

Accustomed to laws, habits, language and government so different from their own, it is not surprising that the act by which they were converted from subjects to citizens was not at first regarded with enthusiasm by the original inhabitants of the ceded territory. The disfavor with which they viewed the transfer was augmented rather than diminished by the provisions for their government contained in the act of 1804, and by the possibly injudicious selection of the officers to administer them, who are said to have had no knowledge of the language of the people and no sympathy with their feelings.

"English was established as the official language of the government and courts of justice, and the innovation of trial by jury was introduced. The native population refused to forsake their mother tongue, and as juries were chosen by lot, it often happened that some of the jurors knew no English, and confusion was the result. Much apprehension was excited among the people of the country by the first laws passed by Congress relative to the land titles, and the failure of Congress to allow them to elect their own Legislature was regarded as an indignity put upon them. Events, however, were shaping toward a fusion of the Latin and Anglo-Saxon elements and the drawing closer of Louisiana to the Federal Union. The process of assimilation was begun by the putting into operation of the territorial government of Louisiana as an integral part of the United States, but its progress was hindered by neighborhood of a hostile foreign power. While the United States was establishing its authority in the Orleans territory, Spain still retained its hold of West Florida.

Spanish garrisons were maintained at Baton Rouge and Natchez. The town of Natchitoches, on the western frontier of the Orleans territory, was in the possession of Spanish troops, and the town of Mobile was held by the Spaniards, notwithstanding the right of the United States to West Florida. This was the situation when, on July 25, 1805, the arch conspirator, Aaron Burr, landed at New Orleans with his scheme for the invasion of Texas and Mexico and the erection of a new government in the Southwest. Burr's later bold movements appeared to threaten New Orleans, into which city he had sent many secret agitators of his scheme. Governor Claiborne warned the people of the penalty affixed to treason by the laws of the United States. Martial law prevailed; but while Burr's treason had found favor with some, his machinations found no re-

sponse in the large majority of the people, who remained loyal and in full accord with Governor Claiborne.

"The time was now approaching when the prophecy of Napoleon, 'I have given to England a rival that will sooner or later humble her pride,' was to be in a measure fulfilled.

"The war of 1812 with England had little effect upon Louisiana until near its close; but in the fall of 1814 it became apparent that New Orleans would be attacked. General Jackson hastened to its defense, and on that memorable 8th of January, 1815, the army of Pakenham was crushed. It is said that Jackson came to New Orleans 'with many of the preconceived American prejudices against the native inhabitants,' and that he had been warned by one in high authority 'that the loyalty of the people to the United States was questioned, and that there were many treacherously-inclined people in the city of New Orleans especially.' After the battle he publicly thanked the citizens of New Orleans for their enthusiastic patriotism. Had New Orleans and the Creoles been disloyal the battle of New Orleans might not have been won. The names of Villeré and Plauché, of Latour, Dacquin and Lacaste and of the Battalion d'Orleans, as well as the memory of the patriotic Creole women who gave their time as hospital nurses, bear witness to their loyalty. By the battle of New Orleans prejudices were removed; the French and American inhabitants became better acquainted; the barriers raised between them by difference of language and customs were, in great part, removed. Louisiana became more firmly cemented to the other states and began that rapid march of progress which has made her the great state she is today.

"During the Spanish rule of Louisiana immigration was restricted rather than encouraged. So it is not a matter of wonder that at the time of its acquisition by the United States the favorably-situated city of New Orleans had but 8,000 inhabitants. So soon as the annexation to the United States took place there was a notable emigration to Louisiana from other parts of the country. With an equable climate and a fertile and alluvial soil, nearly all of which was capable of cultivation, the State of Louisiana afforded unusual attraction to the planter and the agriculturist. Within its borders could be raised not only sugar cane, cotton, tobacco and rice, but fruits and berries, wheat, corn and truck and forage crops. Its forests, said to be to-day the best and finest of their kind remain-

ing in the United States, offered opportunity for the lumber men, while today her mineral resources, though few, include salt, sulphur, petroleum and natural gas. In 1907 Louisiana ranked seventh in the states in salt production, while for the same year her sulphur output was more than \$5,000,000 and her petroleum production exceeded 5,000,000 barrels. The fisheries of Louisiana too, afforded a remunerative field. Her lakes, rivers and streams and her coast waters were, as they are to-day, stocked with a varied and abundant supply of fish, to say nothing of the great oyster industry of the gulf, which yet awaits a larger development.

"But it is not to her soil or her natural resources alone that Louisiana owes her prosperity and her greatness. Lying at the mouth of one of the greatest river systems of the world, which drains a great temperate zone equal, as has been said, in extent to all Europe, except Russia, and situated between two mountain ranges, with 19,000 miles of navigable rivers and one-fourth of the railroad mileage of the world, Louisiana is the natural gateway to the ocean of the products of the soil and mines and the factories of this great valley. Especially is this true with respect to the almost unopened markets of the countries bordering the Caribbean Sea. New Orleans is the logical entrepot of the products which those republics export to the United States. It is logically and, in fact, a great distributing point for our exports to Central America and the Caribbean. It is due to this favorable situation that New Orleans is to-day the second port of the United States in the amount of its foreign trade.

The possibilities of future commercial growth for New Orleans which will be greatly stimulated by the opening of the canal, are shown in some degree by the record of the last few years. I find that in 1907 the imports through this great port were substantially \$46,000,000, while in 1911 they had mounted to nearly \$67,000,000. An increase of \$20,000,000, over 40 per cent, in the short space of four years is certainly a gratifying indication of the trade that may be confidently expected when the water way is opened and the distances between New Orleans and the ports of the west coast of South America, Australia and the Orient are shortened, as they will be, by so many thousands of miles.

Great as has been the growth of the progress of Louisiana during the past hundred years, who can fortell the advancement that



HON. PHILANDER C. KNOX.

this state shall make through the added trade possibilities that will be presented especially to you by the opening of the great international waterway now nearing completion. Let us see what this will mean to New Orleans. The Mississippi Valley produces 85 per cent of our corn (the figures I give are those of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor), 75 per cent of our wheat, 70 per cent of our live stock, 70 per cent of our cotton, 70 per cent of our iron ore, 70 per cent of our petroleum, 50 per cent of our wool, 50 per cent of our copper, 50 per cent of our lumber, 50 per cent of our coal, approximately 40 per cent of our manufactures, and nearly 70 per cent of the farm areas and farm-values of the country. In short, it is to-day the world's greatest single producer of the articles entering international commerce and requisite in that commerce. By the breaking down of the barriers which have separated the Atlantic from the Pacific, the Mississippi Valley, through New Orleans, will have a direct route by water to all of the west coast of South America; a route to Japan 5,000 miles shorter than at present; to Shanghai 3500 miles shorter; to Hong Kong 2,000 miles shorter, to the Philippines 2,000 miles shorter, to Australia 5,000 miles shorter, and to New Zealand nearly 8,000 miles shorter.

"It will place New Orleans nearer to most of these ports than is London, the great commercial center of our principal rival in the Oriental trade.

"But it is more especially in the trade with Latin America that New Orleans should find its greatest opportunity. Trade cannot flourish unless governments are stable and conditions peaceful. How important is it, therefore, that we should, especially with respect to the countries in geographical proximity to the Canal Zone, contribute to the removal of conditions of turbulence and instability by giving them all proper assistance in the promotion of peace, in the development of their resources, and in a sound reorganization of their fiscal systems. This has lately been the effort of the Federal Government with respect to Honduras and Nicaragua. By reason of long years of government maladministration and internal disturbances these countries found themselves with depleted treasuries and burdened with debts and claims which they were unable to meet without outside aid. Their plight directly or indirectly obstructs the development of the rest of Central America. These

two republics sought the aid of the United States in the placing of their finances and administration upon a sound and stable basis with a view to securing the tranquility, prosperity and progress of the two countries. Heartily sympathizing with the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua in their laudable desire to develop their countries by a reconstruction of their fiscal and economic situation, the president empowered me to negotiate with each a treaty having this object in view. These treaties are now before the Senate awaiting that body's advice and consent to their ratification.

Not only Louisiana, but every state bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, is interested in the peaceful development of Central America. It is estimated that in 1909 the total trade of the United States with Central America and Panama exceeded \$42,000,000, of which more than 25 per cent was handled through the gulf ports—New Orleans alone having \$9,000,000 of this trade. Stop and consider that since the United States extended a helping hand to the Dominican Republic the total trade of that country has practically trebled, and you will have some idea of what benefit would result to the Southern States should the Nicaraguan and Honduran conventions be consummated.

To no part of our country is the development of our commerce in the Caribbean region of more importance than to the State of Louisiana and the city of New Orleans, and to no part is it of more interest that in that region conditions for the promotion of trade should exist. Such conditions cannot exist in circumstances such as control in Honduras and Nicaragua, with a baleful indirect effect upon the rest of Central America. Therefore, as useful instrumentalities for commercial expansion, if for no other reason, the treaties with Honduras and Nicaragua now before the Senate should have the sympathy and support, not only of Louisiana, but of the whole Mississippi Valley and the Southern States.

Aside from its commercial importance, which was made conspicuous at once, the State of Louisiana soon attained an eminence in the professions of law and medicine. In medicine its medical college was the first to be founded in the Southwest and its Charity Hospital, one of the first free hospitals to be established in the United States, made good provisions for clinical lectures when they were almost unknown in other parts of the country. In the law, I recall Edward Livingston, who wrote the Code of Judicial

Procedure in 1805, which was used for twenty years, and whose famous Criminal Code, with its philosophical introduction, is one of the foundation stones upon which criminal reformatory legislation has been built. Then there were Mazureau and Christian Roselius and Judah P. Benjamin, the author of one of the classics in the literature of the law, and Randall Hunt, whom Abraham Lincoln's friends wished him to invite into his Cabinet, and John A. Campbell, for some years a judge on the Supreme Court of the United States, who came from Alabama but practiced chiefly at the New Orleans bar after his retirement from the bench. Finally, and not least, there is the present distinguished chief justice of the United States, Edward Douglass White, whom we all admire, not only for his legal abilities, but for his personal qualities.

"In educational facilities the state is surpassed by few, if any, of the other states of the Union. Its public school system is ample and its institutions furnishing the higher education are too well known as too numerous to mention; while its charities, including the hospitals at New Orleans and Shreveport, an institute for the blind, and three insane asylums, give evidence to the humaneness of its citizens.

"The conspicuous part played by men of Louisiana in the nation's past history should not be overlooked. Zachary Taylor went from his victories in Mexico to the President's chair. Edward Livingston left the Senate to be General Jackson's Secretary of State, and, at Jackson's direction, wrote one of the greatest of American state papers—the proclamation of 1832 against the doctrine of nullification. Another citizen of Louisiana, Charles M. Conrad, was Secretary of War under President Fillmore; another, William H. Hunt, as Secretary of the Navy under President Garfield, created the Naval Advisory Board in 1881, which laid the keel of our new navy. When the great work of building the Panama Canal was undertaken a member of the first two commissions was the eminent engineer, Benjamin Morgan Harrod. I mention these as few; the list could be expanded.

"In belles-letters, too, Louisiana has added to our wealth in literature. Who has not read with interest the novels of George W. Cable, the portrayer of Creole life; the Oriental literature of Lafcadio Hearn; the historical sketches and novels of Grace Elizabeth King, the portrayer of character developed in Louisiana by blend-

ing of Anglo-Saxon and Latin blood, slavery, and the change from opulence to poverty by the Civil War, and the poems and novels of Mrs. Davis; while Charles Gayarré's 'History of the Foreign Domination in Louisiana' is cited as the standard in the encyclopedias of to-day.

"It is becoming that the people of the State of Louisiana should take pride in the great commercial, financial and industrial progress which they have made during the past hundred years, retarded though that progress has been for a season by civil strife, and it is fitting that they should give expression to that pride in this centenary celebration. They are not alone in their rejoicing; their pride is shared by the citizens of the other communities forming the Federal Union; for what benefits one benefits all. Each in its prosperity adds strength to the whole; while the Federal Government, watching over them, preserves their rights and protects and promotes their interests abroad. Pride in and loyalty to one's state is proof of the value of one's citizenship in our great, common country."

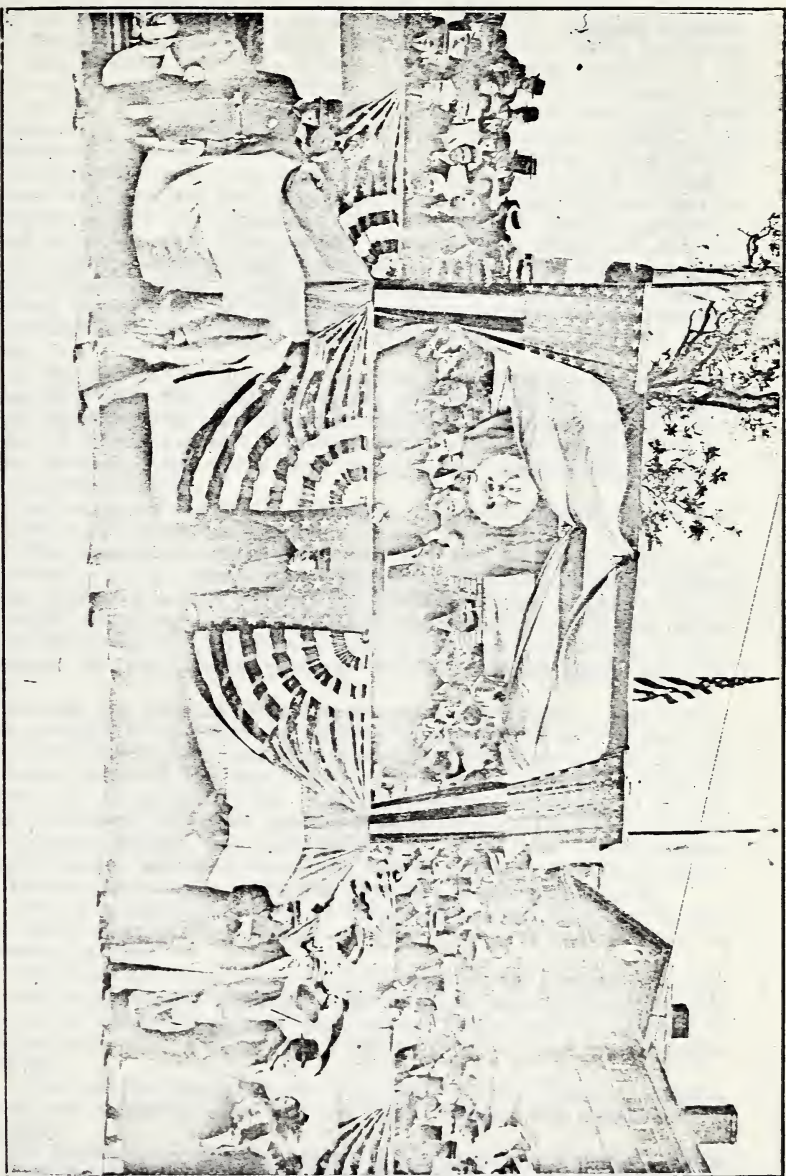
Professor Alcee Fortier, President of the Louisiana Historical Society and chairman of the General Committee on Centennial Celebration, delivered the formal oration of the day.

ADDRESS OF PROFESSOR FORTIER.

Mr. Chairman, Honored Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In 1903, under an act of the General Assembly of the State, the Louisiana Historical Society prepared a program for the celebration of the centenary of the transfer of Louisiana from France to the United States, according to the treaty of Paris of April 30, 1803. The exercises took place on December 18, 19, and 20, and were worthy of the occasion. France was represented by her distinguished ambassador, M. Jusserand; Spain, by her consul in New Orleans, and the President of the United States, by Admiral Wise, of our Navy. Governor Francis, of St. Louis, represented the directors of the great Fair which was soon to be opened to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the cession of Louisiana to the United States. The French, the Spanish, and the American navies were represented by great battleships, which had assembled in our magnificent river, not for war, but on an errand of peace.

The celebration of 1903, Mr. Chairman, was a great success, and your honored predecessor, Governor W. W. Heard, expressed the thanks of the State to the Louisiana Historical Society for the patriotic efforts of its members in commemorating a great event in the history of Louisiana. Again has an important trust been confided to our Society by a legislative act, and, conscious of our responsibility, and grateful for the honor conferred upon us, we have prepared a program for the celebration of a centenary of perhaps greater importance than that of 1903.



GRANDSTAND AND SPEAKERS' PLATFORM.
JACKSON SQUARE.

Founded by Iberville and Bienville, Louisiana remained under the French domination until the year 1762, when it was ceded to Spain by the selfish King Louis XV who, in 1764, informed his subjects on the banks of the Mississippi that they were no longer French. In 1766, Ulloa, the Spanish governor, arrived, and in 1768 the colonists expelled him. The Louisianians had always had an independent spirit, and when they were abandoned by the French government, they thought of establishing a republic in New Orleans, the capital of the province. This idea was but a dream of heroism, and several of the brave men who had conceived it were put to death in 1769 by General O'Reilly, who established firmly the Spanish Domination. Nevertheless, the colonists did not lose their love for freedom, and, as they could not have a government for themselves and by themselves, they helped the Americans in their great war for independence. Under Bernardo de Galvez, the Louisianians made war against the British, who lost Baton Rouge and Natchez in 1779, Mobile in 1780, and Pensacola in 1781. The services of the soldiers of Galvez were gratefully acknowledged by Washington himself, and their descendants, of whom I am proud to be one, are now entitled to membership in the patriotic Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

At the end of the eighteenth century Bonaparte, the glorious First Consul of France, the victor of Arcola and of Rivoli, of the Pyramids and of Marengo, took back Louisiana from Spain, and on April 30, 1803, on the eve of the war with England, ceded to the United States the immense province, from which have been formed thirteen States of our great American Union.

The conqueror was also a statesman, and wrote himself Article 3 of the Treaty of Cession, as follows:

"The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States, and in the meantime they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and the religion which they profess."

Laussat, the Colonial Prefect appointed by Bonaparte, governed Louisiana admirably for twenty days, from November 30 to December 20, 1803. The colonists had been glad to become French again, although they had done justice to the mild rule of the Spanish governors, after the departure of O'Reilly in 1769. The Louisianians regretted to see the tri-colored banner of France lowered from the staff in the Place d'Armes, now Jackson Square, but they understood, when the American star-spangled banner took the place of the French flag that they were becoming citizens of a country which was governed by the people itself.

However attached they were to France, they knew that Laussat was right when, after quoting Article 3 of the treaty, he said to them on November 30, 1803:

"The time will come when you will establish for yourselves a form of government which, although respecting the sacred principles consecrated in the social pact of the Federal Union, will be adapted to your manners, your usages, your climate, your soil and your peculiar localities.

"You will be convinced ere long that, by the treaty of cession, France has conferred upon you the most eminent and memorable of blessings."

The Louisianians of 1803 understood how true were Laussat's words, and their descendants today are grateful to the men who brought about the cession of Louisiana to the United States, Bonaparte and his min-

ister Barbé Marbois, Robert R. Livingston, James Monroe, and Thomas Jefferson. The latter acted as a great statesman when he added Louisiana to the territory of the United States, and he displayed excellent judgment when he appointed William C. C. Claiborne to govern the new American province. Governor Claiborne had a difficult task to perform, but he fulfilled it with admirable tact, industry, ability, and patriotism.

By an act approved March 26, 1804, which was to be in force October 1, 1804, and to continue one year and to the end of the next session of Congress that might be held thereafter, the Territory of Orleans was established. It comprised all that portion of Louisiana south of the Mississippi Territory and of an east-and-west line, to commence on the Mississippi River, at the thirty-third degree of north latitude, and to extend west to the western boundary of the said cession.

Congress had not been generous in its act of March 26, 1804, and the people of the Territory of Orleans were greatly displeased with the little freedom granted them. Indeed, Etienne de Boré, the first mayor of New Orleans, resigned his office on May 16, 1804, through his patriotic pride as a native Louisianian. Claiborne, however, did not agree with Mayor Boré, and in his first message to the Legislative Council, the first message of an American Governor in Louisiana, on December 4, 1804, he was most optimistic in regard to the future of the Territory.

By an act approved March 2, 1805, Congress granted to the people of the Territory of Orleans a more liberal form of government and allowed them to elect the members of their House of Representatives. The inhabitants, besides, were authorized to form a State government and were to be admitted into the Union, upon the footing of the original States, as soon as the Territory should have sixty thousand inhabitants. Although the freedom enjoyed by the people of the Territory was not very great, it was far greater than during the colonial days, and there was some form of self-government, from 1805 to 1812. During that period the most important events were Aaron Burr's conspiracy in 1806, and the revolution in West Florida in 1810, by which the people of that section freed themselves from the rule of Spain.

The Territory of Orleans had been preparing itself for several years for statehood, and, as its population, by a census of 1810, was 76,556, it claimed that it had a right to become a State, and its delegate in Congress, Julien Poydras, asked that the territory be admitted into the Union. The debates on that subject in the House of Representatives, in January, 1811, are very interesting, and the speech of Josiah Quincy, of Massachusetts, excited the greatest surprise and interest all over the country. After stating what he considered should be the great rule of human conduct, he said: "Under the sanction of this rule of conduct, I am compelled to declare it as my deliberate opinion that, if this bill passes, the bonds of this Union are virtually dissolved; that the States which compose it are free from their moral obligations; and that, as it will be the right of all, so it will be the duty of some, to prepare definitely for a separation—amicably if they can, violently if they must."

George Poindexter, from Mississippi Territory, advocated the admission of the Territory of Orleans into the Union, in accordance with article third of the treaty of cession, and condemned violently Mr. Quincy's words in regard to separation from the Union. He added that the latter's language, "if accomplished by an overt act to carry the threat which it contains into execution, would amount to treason, according to its literal and technical definition in the Constitution and laws of the United States." In conclusion, Mr. Poindexter said: "The

fate of Aaron Burr ought to be a salutary warning against treasonable machinations—and if others, having the same views, do not share a similar fate, it will not be because they do not deserve it.”

The debate between Josiah Quincy of Massachusetts, and George Poindexter, of Mississippi, of which Jefferson Davis was later a citizen, is one of the most curious incidents in history, and illustrates admirably the irony of fate. In 1861, fifty years after the interesting speeches of Quincy and Poindexter, Massachusetts and Mississippi had very different views in regard to secession from those of their representatives in Congress in 1811.

The bill authorizing the Territory of Orleans to form a constitution and State government was passed, on January 14, 1811, by a vote of 77 yeas to 36 nays, and was approved by President Madison on February 20, 1811. Let us now see what was the condition of the Territory at that time. The population, as already stated, by a census taken in 1810 by the marshal of the United States, exclusive of West Florida, was 76,556. In 1803, the population of the immense province of Louisiana was about 50,000. In 1810, the city and suburbs of New Orleans had a population of 17,242, and the so-called precincts of New Orleans 7,310. In 1803 there were only about 8,000 inhabitants in the city. We see the large gain in population in the Territory of Orleans during the seven years since the cession to the United States. The Territory was divided into twelve counties: Orleans, German Coast, Acadia, La Fourche, Iberville, Pointe Coupée, Attakapas, Opelousas, Natchitoches, Rapides, Ouachita, and Concordia. The counties were divided into parishes, for instance, the county of Orleans comprised “all that portion of country lying on both sides of the river Mississippi from the Balize to the beginning of the parish of St. Charles, including the parishes of St. Bernard and St. Louis.” The county of German Coast comprised “the parishes of St. Charles and St. John the Baptist, commonly called the first and second German Coasts.” The county of Acadia comprised “the parishes of St. James and the Ascension, commonly called the first and second Acadian Coasts.”

The University of Orleans had been established by legislative act in 1805, but the College of Orleans opened its doors to the young men of the Territory only in 1811. At that time the only important school for girls in the city was that of the Ursuline nuns, who had been here since 1727, and were occupying in 1811 their building on Condé street, now Chartres, which dates from 1732, and is at present the oldest building in the Mississippi Valley. The Government House of the French and Spanish Governors, which was situated on the Levee, and which became the first capitol of the State of Louisiana, was then in existence, but the members of the Constitutional Convention, thirty in number, met on November 4, 1811, in a large room fitted for their accommodation at the Trémoulet House, at the corner of St. Peter and Levee. On November 4, says “*Le Moniteur de la Louisiane*,” the oldest newspaper then in Louisiana, founded in 1794, took place many important events; the opening of Congress, of the Convention, of the College, of the session of the Superior Court, of the Bank of Orleans, and of the Ball Room. “Nothing is lacking now,” it adds, “but an opening of peace,” referring, of course, to the great Napoleonic Wars in Europe.

The temporary president of the Convention, on November 4, was F. J. LeBreton d’Orgenois, a Louisianian by birth. After some discussion, the Convention adjourned to November 18, without electing a permanent president. The newspapers of that time were not more respectful to statesmen than they are today, and said that a certain member of the Convention had prepared a speech of ten pages of

foolscap, chiefly extracted from the essays of Count de Mirabeau. "That invaluable speech may be lost unless the Convention is regularly organized." The doctrines of liberty and equality, and that all men are born equally free, were called "heresy" and "theoretical stuff" by one writer, and another said that property should be made the data for suffrage, at least \$500 of taxable property, and \$5,000 for eligibility to the Legislature. The writer added quaintly but judiciously: "Do not disqualify any man on account of his age—we see old fools in office as well as young ones, or why is the age of a man or the length of his beard a criterion?"

On November 18, 1811, the Convention met for the second time, and Julien Poydras was elected president and Eligius Fromentin, secretary. Poydras had had a remarkable career. Born at Nantes, in France, in 1740, he had come to the colony of Louisiana penniless, and had acquired a large fortune. When Governor Galvez conquered Baton Rouge from the British in 1779, Poydras wrote on that event a short epic poem which is the first work of the French literature of Louisiana. It has not great literary merit, but it is interesting as an historical document. The author evidently imitated Boileau's celebrated epistle on the crossing of the Rhine by the cavalry of Louis XIV. In Poydras's poem the Mississippi is awakened by a thunderbolt. He asks what mortal or what god has come to disturb the sweet peace of his happy shores, where dwell his cherished planters. He sends the nymph Scaesaris to find out who is the rash being that is invading his realm. The nymph goes into the camp, disguised as a mortal, and sees the hero. She returns to the god Mississippi, and describes the army and relates the story of the siege and capture of Baton Rouge. Her narrative to the river-god ends by a prophecy of what his banks will be under the rule of the victors.

Poydras's prophecy has been verified: The Mississippi has been one of the principal causes of the prosperity of Louisiana and of New Orleans, her metropolis. We love our great river; we admire it, and we are proud of it, however terrible it may appear, when it rises in its might and beats its banks with its tumultuous waves. It has given us the soil upon which we stand; it brings to us the commerce of the world; and, by its long course and that of its tributaries, it binds us in close friendship with many millions of our American fellow-citizens. Let us enjoy its benefits, and let the government of our country protect us from its ravages.

The great importance of the event which we celebrate is that it made the Louisianians entirely free and self governing. A territorial form of government is more or less an autocracy, and we know that the people of Louisiana who, through all their history, had striven for freedom, were not satisfied with the form of government given them by Congress in 1805, however liberal it might have seemed. Julien Poydras, the president of the Convention, delivered a long address in French, on November 18, 1811, which was read in English by James Brown. Poydras expressed the opinion of the great majority of the people of the Territory when he said: "A territorial government is execrable; it is a monstrosity in the annals of a free people, which it should never have disfigured, and from which it should be forever erased." The style of Poydras's address was as florid as that of his poem on Galvez. He compared the feelings of the people of the Territory of Orleans, which was about to become a State, to those of a navigator who, on the point of perishing, arrives at the port, the object of his hopes and of his fortune.

Jean Noël Destréhan said that the Territory should not have been separated from Upper Louisiana, or, at least, a part of the latter should

have been annexed to it. He feared the clause of the requirements of Congress, which stated that the judicial and legislative proceedings should be written in English, a clause which seemed to exclude from the government the French speaking people of the new State. Alexander Porter thought that the great mass of the people was not instructed in the principles of freedom, a statement which was not favorably received by the members of the Convention and by the large crowd which had assembled in the hall.

The great question was: "State or no State?" Le Breton d'Orgenois, Col. Bellechasse, Jean Blanque, Magloire Guichard, James Brown, John Watkins, a former mayor of New Orleans, spoke in favor of a State, and Destréhan and Porter against it. Watkins was the mover of the resolution for a State, and the vote stood, for State 35, against it 7. It seems strange that any member of the Convention should have voted against a State, but the men who did so were just as patriotic as their colleagues who voted for a State. A committee, consisting of Allan B. Magruder, James Brown, Henry Johnson, Henry Bry, Jean Blanque, Jean Noël Destréhan, and Michel Cantrelle, was appointed to draw the draft of a constitution. A memorial to Congress was adopted praying for an extension of territory to embrace West Florida to the river Perdido. On November 29, Magruder read the form of a constitution, which was ordered translated into French and published.

On December 9, 1811, a name was chosen for the new State. Orleans, Jefferson, and Lower Louisiana were suggested, but the Convention chose **Louisiana**, the harmonious and beautiful name which La Salle had given, in honor of Louis XIV, to the vast country discovered by him, a name which had been lost for several years, and which was to be as glorious as American Louisiana as it had been under the French and Spanish dominations. So well beloved was the name **Louisiana** in the Territory of Orleans that Bernard de Marigny, a member of the Convention, says that, when it was suggested to give to the new State the name of Jefferson, Louis De Blanc de St. Denis declared that, if such a proposition had any chance of success, he would arm himself with a barrel of powder and blow up the Convention. DeBlanc was right, the name **Louisiana** is as sacred to the people of our great State as the name **New Orleans** to the people of our great city.

The constitution was adopted unanimously, on January 28, 1812, and Fromentin and Magruder were appointed to lay it before Congress. They were to sail by the ship "Missouri," on January 27 or 28, and expected to reach Congress in the first week of March. The Convention adjourned on January 28, having accomplished an excellent task, for the Constitution of 1812 suited admirably the Louisianians of that time and lasted until the year 1845. It was not quite as democratic as the men of our day should like, but it was a judicious piece of work, under which the State prospered greatly for one-third of a century. Congress passed an act for the admission of the new State of Louisiana into the Union, and the President approved the act on April 8, 1812. It was declared, however, that the act should not be in force before April 30, the ninth anniversary of the treaty of cession. By an act approved April 14, the greater part of the Territory of West Florida was added to the State of Louisiana.

Let us cast another glance at the city of New Orleans, the first capital of the State of Louisiana, and see how it was in 1812. The heart of the city was, as it is to-day, the Place d'Armes, from which there was an unobstructed view of our splendid Mississippi. Facing it on Chartres street were the Cathedral, and the two buildings on each side of it, the historic Cabildo and the Presbytery. There was one theatre, the St. Philip, built in 1810, where there were plays in French. On Thursday,

April 30, 1812, exactly one hundred years ago, the "Théâtre St. Philippe" played "Joseph," an opera in three acts, by Méhul and Duval, for the benefit of Mlle. Eugénie Fleury, and "L'Heureuse Erreur," comedy in one act by Patrat. "Le Moniteur de la Louisiane," of April 30, gives news from Washington of the session of Congress, and we see an advertisement signed by N. J. Roosevelt in regard to the persons who should like to be interested in the patent concerning steamboats, of Livingston and Fulton. There are also advertisements about fugitive slaves, and news from Europe that Napoleon will soon make war against Russia. Indeed in the New Orleans newspapers of 1811 and 1812, the great name of Napoleon occurs very often, a name which attracted the passionate attention of the whole civilized world. In January, 1812, we see in the "Louisiana Gazette" that the King of Rome had had his first tooth. The unfortunate "Aiglon" was still a French prince at the Tuileries, and not yet an Austrian archduke at Schönbrunn.

An interesting news in the "Louisiana Gazette" was that the son of Carondelet, our enlightened Spanish governor, a brigadier general in the Spanish army, had acquired great glory at the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo during the war against the French, and that he had been appointed to carry the dispatch to the Cortes and to the Regency. There are notices of three private schools in New Orleans in 1812, and of the Banks of Louisiana and of Orleans. The mother tongue of the greater part of the inhabitants of the city was French; the manners were elegant and pleasing, and life was very agreeable. What a difference, however, between the New Orleans of 1812 and that of 1912, between the small town which had hardly spread beyond the Vieux Carré and our present large and beautiful city. The difference is also immense between the Louisiana of 1812, with its magnificent resources still undeveloped, and that of 1912, so prosperous and progressive that it is destined to be one of the greatest States in the American Union.

Louisiana having become a State, a governor was now to be elected. The Constitution provided that the citizens throughout the State should first vote for the various candidates, after which the returns were to be opened in the presence of both Houses of the General Assembly, the two candidates having the highest number of votes were to be balloted on, and the one receiving the highest number of votes was to be declared elected governor. He was made ineligible for re-election, must be thirty-five years of age and the owner of landed property worth at least \$5,000. No member of Congress nor minister of a religious society was eligible to the office of governor.

The candidates for the governorship were William C. C. Claiborne, Jacques Villeré and Jean Noël Destréhan. The campaign was exciting, for Villeré and Destréhan were both distinguished Creoles who had rendered great service to their native State. Claiborne received the highest number of votes from the people and was elected governor by the General Assembly of Louisiana, which had met on July 27. The Governor was inaugurated on July 31, 1812. His administration was destined to be eventful, as war had been declared by Congress against Great Britain on June 18. In his inaugural address Governor Claiborne said: "War is not the greatest of evils—base submission to aggression would have been a greater curse. It would have entailed dishonor, cowardice, vassalage upon our posterity In such a contest, the issue cannot be doubtful. In such a cause, every American should bare his bosom. Where justice is the standard, Heaven is the warrior's shield."

The first American Governor of the State of Louisiana was worthy of the high esteem which the people had for him. His administration is memorable in our history for the heroic defense made on our soil against foreign invasion by Andrew Jackson and his brave troops, in December,

1814, and January, 1815. At the Battle of New Orleans the Americans won the most complete victory that history has ever recorded, and the star of the eighteenth State of the United States shone with a brilliancy which has never been dimmed from that time.

From 1815 to 1861 Louisiana prospered greatly under the guidance of wise and able governors, and when the great war between the States broke out, the men of Louisiana did their full duty on the battlefield, while the women were just as heroic at home by their fortitude, their charity, and their patriotism. After the war, the Louisianians showed that, like the French, who established the colony which has become an American State, they knew how to bear reverses nobly and to recover from them. Ever courageous and energetic, devoted to their State, the Louisianians of to-day are happy and proud to celebrate the centenary of their complete independence. Louisiana was the first State of the immense province acquired by Jefferson in 1803, to become a State of the American Union. She proved to be so worthy of statehood that when the other territories, formed from the so-called Louisiana Purchase, and from the original province named by LaSalle, applied for admission into the Union, no speeches like that of Josiah Quincy in 1811 were heard in the national House of Representatives.

This Centennial anniversary deserves to be fittingly celebrated to commemorate an event which has been of great importance in the history of civilization. The world has gained by the fact that Louisiana became a State of our United States, one hundred years ago. Her Pelican will be forever sympathetic to all human beings who admire courage and self-sacrifice. *Non sibi sed suis* is one of the mottoes of Louisiana, and to these beautiful words are added others no less beautiful: **Justice, Union, and Confidence.** Let the citizens of our State be faithful to her mottoes, and in a hundred years from now, the second centenary of Louisiana's statehood will be celebrated with the same enthusiasm as the first centenary is celebrated today. There will be, as there are now, distinguished delegates from sister States of the Union and from foreign countries, and the world will say, as it is saying today: Louisiana, you have fulfilled your task well as a civilized State. May God grant that you be forever worthy of being a sovereign State of the United States of America!

Governor Earl Brewer, of Mississippi, was introduced by Governor Sanders.

The chief executive of Mississippi had for his subject "Sister States."

He said that he did not propose, in view of the lateness of the hour, to make a long speech. The programme has been protracted, and the people must be fatigued after standing for three hours. Under such circumstances a visitor from another State could not say anything that would interest the assembly. It would take some topic of a local nature, such as for instance, politics, to hold the attention of the vast audience.

At this stage of Governor Brewer's address, the attention of the people was attracted by the ceremony of flag-raising in Jackson Square. The noise in the square interrupted the Governor's

speech, and when there occurred comparative quiet, he tried to keep on, stating that he admired the great progress made by the State.

But the bands of music began playing as the flag slowly went up the tall pole; the multitude cheered, the big bells of the St. Louis Cathedral pealed forth a musical chorus, and cannon boomed in national salute to the flag.

The ceremony of flag-raising being over, Governor Brewer said that he had better quit speaking, but loud cries of, "Go on, go on, Governor," encouraged him to resume. He then stepped forward and said that at all times Louisianians have been ready to come forward for the Nation when her life was in jeopardy, and in times that called for great men, Louisiana has always responded to the command of the hour. If one should call the roll, and challenge the world, no list would be complete without the names of Louisiana's unconquered heroes.

Governor Brewer spoke in words of high praise and admiration of General Zachary Taylor, the hero of the Mexican War, a Louisianian, who was on his return to the United States elected President of the United States.

The eloquent visiting Governor next mentioned the part played by troops from Louisiana in the epochal battle of New Orleans in 1815 when the British invaders were totally routed. Louisiana furnished fifty per cent of the soldiers on that memorable occasion.

The Governor then passed on to lauding the patriotic men who took such active part, at the risk of their lives, in the dark days of reconstruction in Louisiana, and who so signally aided to free the State from obnoxious rule, and re-established the government which the people of the State desired.

In these days, when people are dissatisfied with present political plans of the man who promised a downward revision of the tariff, and gave an upward revision; when heresies and "isms," are attempted to be put upon the people, who are falling out with the times, some man from the South, and perhaps from Louisiana, might walk into the Presidency, and pave the way for a higher, better, and more lasting civilization.

Governor Brewer thanked the people for their kind attention in spite of the noise and tumult, and when he retired, there were hearty cheers for the plucky Governor of Mississippi.

Miss Clarisse Claiborne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fernand Claiborne, great-grand-daughter of Hon. W. C. C. Claiborne, the first American Governor of Louisiana, and niece of Hon. Charles F. Claiborne, member of the Louisiana Historical Society, and of the general committee on Centennial, took hold of the ropes that hoisted the flag of 1812, of the United States, over the State flag of Louisiana. Miss Claiborne is not only a descendant of the first governor of Louisiana, on the paternal side, but on the maternal side she is a descendant of the Honorable Jacques Villeré, who was the second American Governor of this State, from 1816 to 1820.

The school children sang "The Star Spangled Banner," at the conclusion of the flag raising.

A detachment of the Washington Artillery fired a salute of seventeen guns—the national salute—and next boomed one more gun in commemoration of the fact that Louisiana was the eighteenth State to be admitted into the Union.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZE MEDAL TO MISS DINWIDDIE.

Judge A. A. Gunby of Monroe, donor of the prize medal to be competed for by pupils of the public schools, for the best essay on "The Significance of Louisiana's Admission into the Union as a State," presented the gold medal to Miss Emily B. Dinwiddie.

Judge Gunby in presenting the medal said:

Mr. Chairman and Fellow Citizens of Louisiana:—It seems proper that I should explain the object and purpose which the Louisiana Historical Society had in view in presenting a medal on this occasion. The Society thought, and properly thought, that the purpose of the celebration should be mainly educational and, therefore, that the public schools of the State should be interested in this celebration in the most direct and efficient form. The Society offered a medal to be contested for by all the pupils of all the schools in the State embraced in the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Doctor Gwinn, the distinguished Superintendent of Public Education for the city of New Orleans, was put in charge of this contest and he invited essays on the subject of "The Significance of the Admission of Louisiana to the Union," and requested the principals of the schools to make choice of all the essays presented and to send him two of the best essays chosen from the entire list. There were over a thousand essays on the subject presented, and I

am proud to say the study of Louisiana history was stimulated and encouraged more than it has ever been before by this historical contest. Doctor Gwinn states that he received seventy choice essays from the number written and that he, together with his committee, examined and weeded out those essays and selected therefrom ten of the best; but all indications from whence these essays came and by whom written were eliminated and that these essays were then submitted to a committee composed of Prof. Butler of Newcomb College, Miss Grace King and Miss Imogen Stone, and they selected from these essays one that they considered best in form and composition. This essay was written by Miss Emily B. Dinwiddie of the Newman Manual Training School of New Orleans.

I ask permission to say, before this vast audience, that the object of the Historical Society in giving the children of the State a prominent and leading part in these exercises, was a noble and wise one. Our children are the jewels of Louisiana; they are our best and most valuable product; they are the pride of the present, the hope of the future and the glory of the past. For my part, I would rather have my name connected with the children of the State than with any of the elaborate and learned orations and essays that have been submitted here on the career of Louisiana in the past and her prospects for the future.

I hope I may be also permitted to say that the history of Louisiana is the most important of any State in the Union, and, I might say, more important than the history of any other State or nation in the world. The significance of the admission of Louisiana to the Union has never been adequately treated by any historian. Time will not permit to discuss, nor even to outline the immense significance of that event in the history of our Government. The admission of Louisiana to the Union not only achieved the great things that have been outlined here on this stand; it not only made the Mississippi the greatest pathway of commerce in the world; freed for all time the navigation of the Mississippi River and made it the bond of an indissoluble union; it not only destined the City of New Orleans to become the greatest seaport in the world, as Jefferson said; it not only was the first State formed out of the foreign territory, as has been well said here, and made possible the admission of thirteen States from the territory purchased from Napoleon; not only made of the United States

a more powerful Government, a continental Government, a world power, which no other nation dare to attack, which no other nation on earth would successfully hope to compete with in war; it not only provided the people of the United States a fine territory of rich and fertile soil which enables Louisiana, like her Pelican, to feed her own young, and in time to feed the young of all the world; but above all, and before all, the admission of Louisiana to the Union made possible and necessary the annunciation of the Monroe Doctrine by President Monroe, who had been the plenipotentiary to make the treaty with Napoleon; the annunciation of the Monroe Doctrine, which, thanks to the Louisiana purchase, has reserved the soil of all countries in the Western Hemisphere for popular government and thus revolutionized the governments and the political ideas of the whole world. Such was the significance of the admission of Louisiana as a State in the Union.

To stimulate the study of history, to enable our children and our children's children to realize the immense significance of that commonwealth to the Union of States, was the wise and noble object of the Louisiana Historical Society. We want the children of this State to become deeply and truly versed in the history of Louisiana and that shall be the proudest memento of this great occasion. If I may be permitted, in some measure, to paraphrase the words of the greatest oration ever delivered on American soil, I would say that the Louisiana Historical Society wishes that you children, who stand around this stage, would go forth from this celebration and consecrate yourselves anew to the service and glory of Louisiana; that from the memories of this day there may be a new birth of freedom and a new baptism of patriotic fire in this commonwealth.

Now, Miss Dinwiddie, I take great pleasure and pride in presenting to you, as the winner among a thousand competitors, as the winner in an honorable and severe contest, as in the noblest sense, the Queen of this Celebration, I take great pleasure in congratulating you on your ambition and ability and courage, and presenting to you, as a representative of the children of the present and the children of the future, this beautiful medal, this Louisiana Centennial medal, which bears upon one of its golden sides the coat of arms of your native State, and upon the other the following inscription:

"LOUISIANA CENTENNIAL MEDAL.**For Prize Essay****Presented to Emily B. Dinwiddie,****April 30, 1912."**

Miss Dinwiddie's essay that won the coveted prize, was as follows:

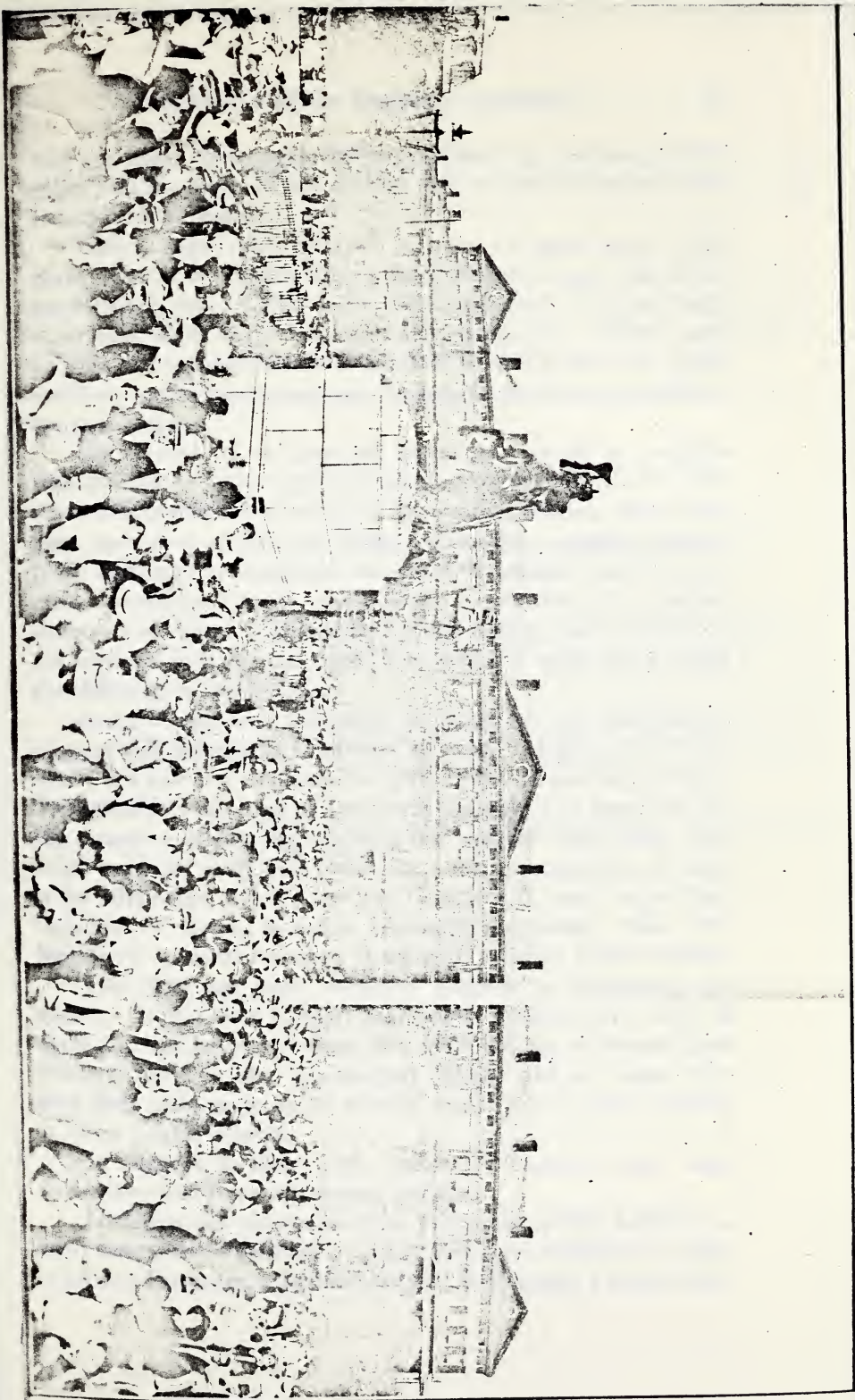
LOUISIANA AS A STATE.

"When Napoleon Bonaparte sold this land to the United States for fifteen million dollars, he little dreamed of its value. The people criticized Thomas Jefferson strongly for buying what they thought to be a waste land of forests, water and swamps. They, too, little thought of what value it would be in only a century, for now it is estimated to be worth at least a hundred billion dollars. It is said that the wealth of her natural resources is greater than that of any of the thirteen States forming the original body of the Union. Congress hesitated in admitting the State into the United States because it was inhabited so largely by the French and Spanish Creoles, whose ideas of liberty and government were so very different from those of the Americans. Even after she was admitted as a State there was a great difference of opinion as to whether it was a good thing or not. The American people who had moved into the purchased land were very glad, but the French inhabitants were sorry, for now they lost all hope of being restored to the French government again.

Let us look at some of the changes that have taken place since that time. In 1803 a census was taken and it was found that the inhabitants in the ceded territory were 49,000. Now in the State of Louisiana alone (and it is but a small part of the Louisiana purchase) there are more than thirty-three times as many.

New Orleans was then the largest city of the territory, and still is. The position of this city is one reason for its being large. It is a river harbor, about 100 miles from the gulf, but easily reached by ocean vessels. Shreveport and Baton Rouge (the capital) are also important commercial cities.

Many people thought that Louisiana was a great area of malarial swamps, and it is true that they take up about a third of the State, but they are now regarded as her greatest source of wealth, for they are not swamps in the usual meaning of that word.



they are really rich prairie lands overflowed by the many rivers going into the gulf. When drained and reclaimed they make the richest of farm lands.

Cotton, sugar cane, corn and rice are the great crops of the State. Cotton is raised mostly in the southeastern part, rice in the southwestern part. Cotton is the most important crop financially, sugar cane ranks next, then corn, and fourth, rice. Wheat, oats, potatoes and peanuts have been found to do well in this soil. Cattle and sheep can be raised profitably throughout the State, especially in the pine lands.

No account of the material advantages would be complete without mention of her wealth in almost every form of fish life. The rivers and bayous which run into the Gulf of Mexico, carry down great quantities of food for fishes, and redfish, pompano, mullet, trout, redbshappers, sheepshead and Spanish mackerel are found in great abundance, besides inexhaustible quantities of oysters, shrimps and crabs. The enemies which destroy many oysters in the northern beds are not found here, and the warm water makes the oysters grow much faster.

Some of the most important industries are the manufacture of sugar and the mining of sulphur and salt. Although the oil industry is a new one, Louisiana is eighth in the oil producing States. The opening of the Panama Canal will probably do a great deal for the commerce of this city, for it is the nearest large port. The water ways are many and important. The principal one of these is the Mississippi, which joins New Orleans with many large cities, including St. Louis, Memphis, Louisville and others. New Orleans is the terminal for many of the large railways in this country.

The State has made wonderful progress in developing its schools. It was once thought that public schools were sort of charitable institutions for those who could not pay to educate their children, but this idea has changed entirely and all classes now send their children to public schools, which give as good teaching as many private schools.

In addition to many high schools the State has two large universities and three experiment stations.

Louisiana has given some great men to the world, Audubon, a great naturalist; Richardson, a great architect; Gottshalk, a great musician; Benjamin, a brilliant lawyer; Beauregard, a famous mil-

itary engineer, and Zachary Taylor, one of the United States' finest Presidents. She has no cause to be ashamed for her offerings to the United States and to the world."

The children of the public schools sang "Dixie," and everybody stood while the Southern song was being so sweetly given by the young people, to the accompaniment of the orchestra from the battleship New Hampshire.

The exercises closed with a benediction by the Rev. Dr. R. F. Coupland, D. D.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND COMMERCE; THE CABILDO AND PRESBYTERY.

An important feature of the day was the formal opening of the Louisiana State Museum which took place in the Cabildo, now in the keeping of the Louisiana Historical Society, and in the Presbytère, on the lower side of the St. Louis Cathedral. Historical mementoes and relics are kept in the Cabildo, while in the other building are preserved specimens of the varied products of Louisiana.

In the office of the curator, Mr. Robert Glenk, refreshments were served to the visitors.



Banquet
given on the occasion of the
Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary
of the Admission of Louisiana as a
State into the United States
in the Gold Room of the Hotel Brunewald
City of New Orleans
on April the thirtieth, at eight o'clock
Nineteen hundred and twelve
under the auspices of
The Louisiana Historical Society
in accordance with Act 107 of the General Assembly of Louisiana
Approved July 1st nineteen hundred and ten

THE BANQUET.

The celebration of the banquet in the gold room of the Hotel Grunewald was a social function of great interest. The toastmaster, Professor Fortier, presided with dignity, and the toasts and allusive music were much enjoyed.

THE ORDER OF TOASTS.

Music—"Southern Smiles March."

Invocation.

Most Rev. Archbishop James H. Blenk, of New Orleans.

Toastmaster—Prof. Alcée Fortier, President Louisiana Historical Society.

"Welcome to Our Guests."

By Prof. Alcée Fortier.

Music—"Auld Lang Syne."

"The President of the United States."

Response by Hon. Philander C. Knox, Secretary of State of the United States, representing President Taft.

Music—"Hail to the Chief."

"France."

Response by Hon. Henri Francastel, Consul General of France in New Orleans.

Music—"La Marseillaise."

"Spain."

Response by Don Señor Alexandro Berea y Rodrigo, Consul of Spain in New Orleans.

Music—"Hymne de Riego."

"Louisiana of the Past."

Response by Hon. Charles F. Claiborne, grandson of the first Governor of Louisiana, W. C. C. Claiborne.

"Louisiana of the Present."

Response by Hon. J. Y. Sanders, Governor of Louisiana.

"Louisiana of the Future."

Response by Hon. Henri L. Gueydan, of Vermilion Parish, Senator.

Celebration of the Louisiana Centennial.

Music—"My Louisiana Lou."

"The City of New Orleans."

Response by Hon. Martin Behrman, Mayor of New Orleans.

Music—"Cher mo l'aimin Toi."

"The Historical Relation of Quebec to the City of New Orleans."

Response by Rev. Antonio Huot, of Laval University, Quebec.

Music—"International Hymn."

"Latin America."

Response by Hon. Don Señor Ricardo Arias, Minister of Panama in Washington City.

Music—"La Paloma."

"The Army of the United States."

Response by Lieutenant-Colonel Lansing H. Beach, U. S. Engineers.

Music—"My Own United States."

"The Navy of the United States."

Response by Captain J. H. Oliver, Commanding the U. S. Battleship New Hampshire.

Music—"Stars and Stripes, Forever."

"The Day We Celebrate."

Response by Judge Henry Renshaw, of Division C, First City Court, N. O.

Music—"Dixie."

"Education in Louisiana."

Response by Dr. E. B. Craighead, President of Tulane University.

Music—"School Days."

"The Judiciary of Louisiana."

Response by Hon. Joseph A. Breaux, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana.

Music—"You Gotta Quit Kickin' My Dawg Aroun'."

"The General Assembly of Louisiana."

Response by Colonel J. D. Hill.

Music—"Alexander's Ragtime Band."

"The Historical Societies of the United States."

Response by Hon. M. W. C. Sprague, representing the Governor of Michigan.

Music—"Then You'll Remember Me."

"Our Visiting Governors."

Response by Hon. Earl Brewer, Governor of Mississippi.

Music—"We Are a Band of Brothers."

"The Ladies."

Response by Prof. H. M. Gill.

Music—"My Beautiful Doll."

"Louisiana State Museum."

Response by Hon. T. P. Thompson, President of the Board of Curators of the Museum.

Music—"Home, Sweet Home."

"The Press."

Response by Hon. John Dymond, Former President of the Louisiana Press Association.

Music—"Washington Post."

Benediction.

By Rev. George H. Cornelson, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, New Orleans.

Music—"The Star Spangled Banner." (All Standing.)

Leader of Orchestra—Prof. George L. O'Connell.

Among the distinguished persons present at the banquet as guests of the committee were: Hon. J. Y. Sanders, Governor of Louisiana; Hon. Earl Brewer, Governor of Mississippi; Hon. W. E. Clark, Governor of Alaska; Hon. Philander C. Knox, Secretary of State of the United States; Most Rev. James H. Blenk, Archbishop of New Orleans; Hon. Henri Francastel, Consul-General of France; Hon. Alexandro Berea y Rodrigo, Consul of Spain; Hon. J. B. Calvo, Minister in Washington from Costa Rica; Hon. Ricardo Arias, Minister in Washington from Panama; Hon. H. T. Carew Hunt, British Consul General; Hon. F. Davila, Minister from Honduras; Hon. Salvator Castrillo, Minister from Nicaragua; Hon. R. Bengoechea, Consul General of Guatemala; Hon. G. Ecceverria Aguilar, Consul of Belgium; Hon. M. W. C. Sprague, representing

the Governor of Michigan; Captain W. S. Wood, commanding battleship "Nebraska;" Captain J. H. Oliver, commanding battleship "New Hampshire;" Lieutenant-Commander D. E. Dismukes, U. S. S. "Petrel;" Lieutenant-Colonel Lansing H. Beach, U. S. Engineers; Major S. A. Kephart, commanding troops at U. S. Barracks; Rev. Antonio Huot, of Laval University, Quebec, and many others.

The banquet was in every way successful and enjoyable to those who participated in it. Space precludes our reproducing in full the text of the toasts delivered, but we shall present some as representative of the wide interest aroused beyond the borders of the State by the celebration.

The toast first announced by the toastmaster, Professor Fortier, was "The President of the United States," and the entire company rose to greet the response made by Hon. Philander C. Knox, representing, at the Centennial celebration, the Chief Executive of the Nation.

Mr. Knox, in beginning his talk, took occasion to refer to the lavish hospitality tendered him during the Centennial ceremonies; hospitality of so generous a character as to prove to his satisfaction, Louisiana's claims to that quality in an unusually high degree.

"I am glad to be asked to respond to a toast to the President," said Mr. Knox. "There is, to my mind, no office in all the world, more responsible and more mighty than that of Chief Executive of these United States. We have, in this country, a government in many ways, peculiar to ourselves, and in which the power is vested in legislative, judicial and executive officers, but yet remains in the hands of the people. In politics the power, at the last, is always with the people. They must always rule, and not in this government, or any other government, has any system of monarchical or oligarchical control been so strong as to long prevail over the demands of a righteous and assertive people, resolved to be free.

"We may take office from our legislators when they make unwise laws. We may impeach our judicial officers when they make improper or dishonest decisions—and I am glad to say that not more than two or three times have charges of dishonesty against judges been sustained. We may even impeach the President.

'Now, in all this complex scheme of administrative life the President's office is the most important, by far. He must be a

man of broad comprehension—indeed almost universal comprehensiveness is required of him. Filling the Presidential office, now, we have a man who by qualifications, by hereditary endowments, and by experience, is one of the ablest men, to my mind, ever in this high position. Mr. Taft's father was Attorney General of the United States. He spent his boyhood in an atmosphere of vigorous Americanism. When a young man he ascended to the bench, and served wisely as a judge. He became Solicitor General of the United States, and from that position graduated to the post of Secretary of War. As Secretary and in the previous capacity of Governor of the Philippines, he performed diplomatic services of inestimable value to his country. So interested was he in his labors of directing Philippine affairs, that while engaged there he twice refused to accept a position declared to be the height of his ambition—a seat on the Supreme Court bench.

"I say to you, William Howard Taft is a man of fullest Presidential stature, a thorough reformer without ostentation, a man who, deciding upon the advisability of roasting a pig, can do so without burning a village."

The Honorable Henri Francastel, Consul General of France at New Orleans, replied to the toast "France," in his native tongue.

"M. Jusserand m'a chargé de le représenter à ce mémorable anniversaire. Nous devons regretter profondément son absence, car en admettant que je puisse rencontrer les paroles qu'il convient de dire à ce banquet, ces paroles n'auront jamais dans ma bouche l'autorité qu'elles auraient eue dans celle de l'Ambassadeur de la République française.

Quoi qu'il en soit, la substitution était fatale, puisqu'elle s'est produite; fatale comme l'était la réunion de la Louisiane aux Etats-Unis d'Amérique. Les événements historiques sont inéluctables; il serait étrange, en effet, que l'évolution des espèces fut régie sur la terre par des lois inflexibles, tandis que les destinées de l'humanité seraient livrées aux caprices du hasard.

Il était écrit que la Louisiane serait rendue à la France en 1800 et, que le retour à mon pays de cet immense territoire n'aurait qu'une durée éphémère. En 1803 Bonaparte cédait la Louisiane aux Etats-Unis.

"J'ai entendu dire que les Louisianais devaient à l'article 3 du

traité de cession, leur prompt admission dans l'Union américaine. Cet article stipulait bien que les Louisianais deviendraient aussitôt que possible citoyens des Etats Unis, et auraient la jouissance de leur liberté et de leurs biens, ainsi que le libre exercice de leur religion; mais il ne faut pas s'exagérer l'efficacité d'un pareil article. En le signant, le Premier Consul faisait un beau geste et un geste adroit. A la veille du jour où il s'apprêtait à rétablir l'ordre en France en supprimant la liberté, il se préoccupait de conserver cette même liberté, à une poignée de citoyens français qui échappaient à sa main dominatrice, et il s'affirmait ainsi républicain.

C'est à elle même, Messieurs, que la Louisiane doit sa rapide élévation au rang d'Etat; elle était mûre pour l'autonomie. Lorsque son étoile est allée prendre place dans le champ d'azur du drapeau américain, l'heure était venue de ce lever d'astre sur l'horizon politique.

La cession de la Louisiane a eu son bon côté pour la France. Quand deux peuples sont voisins, il est impossible qu'ils n'aient pas de temps à autre maille à partir ensemble; si les Français et les Américains s'étaient trouvés en perpétuel contact aux limites mal fixées du bassin du Mississipi, des froissements eussent été inévitables. Que serait devenue cette amitié qui dure depuis un siècle et demi et dont il n'existe peut-être pas d'autre exemple dans l'histoire?

"Tout est donc pour le mieux. Il ne me reste plus qu'à former un souhait. Puisse cette amitié plus que séculaire ne subir jamais d'éclipse et se prolonger à la faveur de traités d'arbitrage, jusqu'à l'avènement de cette paix universelle dont quelques hommes politiques de ce temps ne croient pas la réalisation impossible.

Senor Don Alexando Berea y Rodrigo, Consul of Spain at New Orleans, responded in Spanish, to the toast "Spain."

Senor Berea said:

"Señores:—Ineludibles atenciones de su elevado cargo han impedido al Sr. Ministro de S. M. en Washington asistir á los festivos llevados á cabo en esta ciudad para conmemorar el centenario de la entrada de la Luisiana como Estado dentro de la gran Union Norte-Americana; pero, habiendo delegado en mi, cumpla tan honorem mision haciendo publico testimonio de agradecimiento á la Comision organizadora de este Centenario por la delicada aten-

cion que ha tenido invitando á España á concurrir por medio de su representante á estas solemnidades, agradecimiento que tengo que hacer extensivo al Señor que dedicó su brindis á España por frases laudatorias que dedico á mi querida Patria y que aprecio en todos su valor.

“Todos sabeis el importantísimo papel que desempeñó España en el descubrimiento de este Continente al que aportó su civilización sin reparar en sacrificios de ninguna clase.

“Nadie de los presentes ignora que los primeros trabajos de exploración de este territorio lo realizaron los Españoles de los cuales merecen especial mención, Ponce de Leon, y Hernando de Soto que descubrió el Misisipi y que no era ningún aventurero como erróneamente lo califican, algunos sino el Gobernador de Cuba enviado por el Rey de España para tomar posesión efectiva de estos territorios que de derecho la pertenecían.

“En tiempos posteriores, cuando la Luisiana pasó a la Corona de Castilla España se interesó vivamente por el engrandecimiento y esplendor de su nueva colonia secundándole en su empeño todos los gobernadores pues, aunque alguno hay empleado procedimientos equivocados, no puede imputarsele el error á España, coadyuvando á la acción oficial ciudadanos tan ilustres como Don Andrés de Almonester y Rojas que reedificó á sus expensas la Catedral de San Luis destruida por un incendio, fundó el Hospital de Caridad de San Carlos al que dotó de rentas, el Hospital de leprosos, el convento y escuela de las Ursulinas, el edificio del Tribunal. Y prueba de que la administración española fué apreciada en mucho por los naturales del país que varias calles de Nueva Orleans ostentan los nombres de sus Gobernadores haciendo memorables los de Ulloa, O'Reilly, Unzaga, Galvez, Miró, Carondelet, Gayoso y Salcedo. Y si aun esto no fuese bastante prueba, ahí está la contestación dada por los criollos franceses al mensaje que les dirigió el último Gobernador Francés Mr. Laussat, ‘aunque nos alegramos de hacernos ciudadanos franceses no tenemos salvo rara excepción que ya alguna del trato recibido de los Gobernadores españoles añadiendo’ dejad á los españoles gozar tranquilamente de las propiedades que adquirieron en este suelo y dejadnos compartir con ellos como hermanos las bendiciones de nuestra situación.’

“Aunque á España ya no le ligan con America otros vínculos que los de carácter étnico y moral no por eso mira con indiferencia

á las que fueron sus provincias ó colonias ; pues así como una madre siempre está atenta al porvenir de sus hijos aunque estos se hallen emancipados la España se interesa siempre por la suerte de los territorios en que dominó, participando de sus alegrías y de sus aflicciones.

"Hoy que la Luisiana conmemora una fecha que ella considera gloriosa para su historia, España se asocia á su alegría y satisfacción haciendo fervientes votos por su prosperidad y engrandecimiento como los hace tambien por la felicidad de la gran República á la que se halla unida.

"He dicho."

Mr. C. F. Claiborne, bearing a name of historic significance, fittingly responded to the toast, "Louisiana of the Past," as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—It is not through any fitness of mine that I have had the honor of being asked to answer this toast, but as a compliment to the name I have inherited, which forms a connecting link between "Louisiana in the Past" and "Louisiana in the Present."

It is not my purpose in bidding you turn your thoughts back to the latter part of the seventeenth century to take you down the Mississippi River with Marquette and La Salle in 1682, nor to make you follow the intrepid Iberville and Bienville, and Sauvolle in 1699 through the tangled forests and trackless swamps of Louisiana or over the Indian trail, until they settled in New Orleans in 1718. I fear the Odyssey of their adventures and trials, their privations and perils would recall too vividly their sufferings, and mar your enjoyment of the good things before you ; but I mention their names only in order that you may recall their bravery and their fortitude. These gallant sons of a most chivalrous country carried at their head the Cross, as the emblem of Divine sanction, and held forth the white banner of Louis XIV as the representative of civilization and of temporal power. They forged their way ahead, and neither floods, nor storms, nor famine, nor pestilence, nor the poisoned arrows of hostile savages, nor the seductive charms of Indian maidens, could arrest them, until they had conquered and claimed the territory for their beloved France and named it after their "Great King." But their exploits were to be another's gains. It was ever thus. *Sic vos, non vobis*, it is not for you, birds, that

you build nests, nor for you, lambs, that you grow your fleece, nor for you, bees, that you distil your honey; *Sic vos, non vobis*, it was not for your country, gallant children of France, that you suffered and died, that you discovered and explored, and conquered the vast territory of Louisiana bounded on the East by the Mississippi River, on the North by the British possessions, on the West by the Rocky Mountains, and on the South by the Mexican possessions and the Gulf of Mexico. In 1762 your King made a simulated sale of it to Spain, and the French chevalier yielded to the Spanish hidalgo. In 1803 the United States extended its hand and received the transfer of it for a mess of porridge. The tri-color of France was dropped, and, as it descended, abundant tears trickled down the cheeks of strong men who had never wept before. But though the authority of France existed no more, it left behind as a legacy to the colonists, its liberal religion, its euphonic language, the sweet fragrance of its polite manners, its wise laws regulating the civil relations of the citizen, and a deep-seated love for the mother country. You might as well have tried to pluck the Rocky Mountains from their roots, or to drain the Mississippi River to its bed, as to have robbed the Louisianians of this heritage. They did not take kindly to the flaxen-haired and blue-eyed Saxon neighbors. But as each ox-eyed daughter of Spain or France pledged her troth to "love, honor and obey" some blue-eyed hero, the black and blue mingled in cordial harmony. From this union of hearts sprang a communion of thoughts and of interests that brought prosperity and progress to the infant colony. It grew with rapid strides, until in April, 1812, just one hundred years ago, it was fully emancipated, relieved from the tutorship and disabilities that attend a Territory and invested with all the authority and privileges of a State, with power not only to administer her own affairs and select her own officers, but to participate in making the laws that were to govern her elder sister States of the Union.

But the State of 1812 was to the State of 1912 even as the one-story, tile-roofed tenement at the corner of Chartres and Ursulines is to the Whitney Bank Building, eleven stories high. Its population was in the thousands, its agricultural products consisted of a few bags of corn, indigo and some sugar cane; its commerce was carried over the Mississippi River in boats propelled by human energy or the unreliable winds; the means of travel by land were

by ox teams into which the women and children were huddled and around which the men walked; a message was communicated by a man on horseback; the blackness of night was tempered by a candle or a smoking lamp; everything was frugal, primitive, slow and simple. But now began to shine upon the youthful State the genial sun of American Institutions; those institutions which guarantee free scope to the intellectual and physical efforts of the citizen and give every man a chance. Like an acorn planted in fertile soil, it sprouted and grew, and spread its wide and heavy limbs until it became the great State of 1860. Its prosperity and wealth attracted admiration; it became a leader in education, refinement, and manners. Its public men were noted for their wisdom and learning.

I remember well the massive oratory of William Hunt, the Ciceronian eloquence of Randell Hunt, the graceful manner and melodious voice of Spofford and of Randolph, the logic of John A. Campbell and Thomas J. Semmes, the force of Soulé, Dufour, and Roselius, and many other distinguished citizens. All that is left of them to-day is their name upon their tombstone.

But in 1860, the sun of our prosperity was obscured by the clouds of war. The tempest of a great conflict broke out and raged for four long years. The flash of the rifle, the roar of the cannon, the yells of the victors, the groans of the conquered, spread terror over the land. Those discordant sounds meant blood and death upon the battlefield, and want and despair at home. If our soldiers had fought the enemy alone, they might have conquered; but the question of slavery and humanity was involved in the titantic struggle which seemed to array civilization and even Providence itself against them. Humanity and the Union won; Louisiana lost. But when the smoke of battle had floated afar, and the rumbling sounds of war had died away, we came to the conclusion that though victory was theirs, the advantage was ours.

Louisiana did not recover at once from the long conflict. But even as unhealthy humors remain in the human system after a morbid fever of long duration and afterwards break out so the poison of Reconstruction afflicted our land for a full decade after peace.

But then arose DeBlanc, Nicholls, Ogden, Michel, Fortier and the heroes of September 14th, 1874, who swept away the enemies of our body politic.

Louisiana then shook off the sad memories of the war and of Reconstruction, and bent her energies in gathering from the earth those crops of sugar, cotton and rice, which were to make her again prosperous and wealthy. Today she is happy that the country is chrystalized into one, powerful, indivisible and imperishable. Among the stars that are set in the banner of the Republic none shines more proudly, more brilliantly nor more faithfully than that one which represents Louisiana. Non sibi, sed suis.

Rev. Antonio Huot, of Quebec, Canada, professor in Laval University, responded to the toast, "The Historical Relation of Quebec to New Orleans."

M. le président, Monseigneur, Messieurs:—Sir Francis Langebin, lieutenant-gouverneur de la Province de Québec, et M. N. Drouin, maire de Québec, devaient être ici ce soir et prendre la parole.

Malheureusement empêchés, c'est à votre humble serviteur que M. Fortier a bien voulu confier ce redoutable honneur de représenter le Canada.

Le Canada ne peut pas rester indifférent au souvenir des grands événements historiques de la Louisiane. Il n'y a pas un Etat de cette république dont l'histoire ait été aussi intimement liée à celle de notre pays que cette belle, riche et féconde Louisiane. Au XVII et au XVIII siècle, en effet, la Louisiane était la soeur du Canada. Tous les deux sont nés à l'ombre du glorieux drapeau de la vieille France. Tous les deux ont reçu les suprêmes bienfaits de la civilisation chrétienne de ces missionnaires français, dont l'un des plus grands historiens de votre pays, Parkman, a loué si souvent, dans ses oeuvres, l'admirable héroïsme.

Le Canada a donné à la Louisiane deux de ses plus illustres enfants, D'Iberville et Bienville; D'Iberville, qui en 1699, jetait les bases du premier établissement fondé sur le sol louisianais par des hommes de race blanche; Bienville, qui en 1718, marquait, ici même, l'emplacement de cette Nouvelle-Orléans, si renommée aujourd'hui pour sa générosité, sa culture et le charme de sa société, en même temps que pour les progrès remarquables qu'elle ne cesse de faire dans le commerce et l'industrie, grace à l'intelligence et à l'énergie de ses citoyens.

Rien, il me semble, ne peut nous faire mieux comprendre

jusqu'à quel point étaient unis la Louisiane et le Canada, au XVIII^e siècle, que de rappeler ce fait ; que les deux pays ont eu, tour à tour, le même gouverneur, le marquis de Vaudreuil ; celui-là même que vos historiens appellent : "le beau marquis."

Enfin, messieurs, c'est chez vous que nos malheureux frères, les Acadiens exilés, trouvèrent, en 1765, grace à la généreuse hospitalité de vos maîtres, un refuge assuré. Le Canada ne l'oubliera jamais.

Aussi, croyez-le bien, messieurs, c'est avec bonheur que les Canadiens-Français suivent aujourd'hui les progrès remarquables de la Louisiane ; qu'ils la voient marcher avec une fierté digne de sa noble origine, avec courage, hardiment toujours, malgré les épreuves, vers les destinées plus brillantes encore qui l'attendent.

Pour vous, Messieurs, et cela ne fait aucun doute, la Nouvelle-Orléans est la Reine du Mississippi. Son site sur ce fleuve géant, au bas de cette immense et fertile vallée, est unique ; son port est l'un des plus beaux, des mieux protégés et des mieux outillés, du monde entier. Vraiment, l'avenir de cette ville ne peut être que magnifique,—et c'est avec plaisir que les Canadiens Français, en attendant la joie qu'ils auront le 24 juin prochain, de saluer au Congrès de la langue française de Québec le représentant de cet état, votre distingué président M. Alcée Fortier, et tous les Louisianais qui voudront bien l'accompagner ; c'est avec plaisir que tous mes compatriotes disent, ce soir, avec nous :

Vive la Reine du Mississippi ! Vive la Louisiane !

Je vous prie Mesdames et Messieurs de boire aux relations de bon voisinage et d'excellente amitié qui doivent toujours régner entre les Etats-Unis et le Canada.

Senor Ricardo Arias, Minister of Panama at Washington, made a very felicitous address, in acknowledgement of the toast to "Latin America." He said :

Gentlemen :—Undeserved honor has been conferred on me, the representative of the youngest and one of the smallest Republics of this Continent, by being requested to respond to the call of "Latin America," and as every human action has its motive, there must be one in this selection which I have striven hard to detect until at last I believe I have succeeded, as I will later on expose.

Extending from the northern boundary of Mexico to Cape Horn and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with its many thou-

sands of miles of coast open to navigation the whole year around and free from treacherous icebergs, with its many natural harbors and its unsurpassed navigable rivers running from West to East, as do the mighty Amazon and the other large Brazilian Rivers; from North to South as run the La Plata and its tributaries, and from South northwards as do the Orinoco and the Magdalena, with its rich botanical and mineral resources, its fertile lands and its varied climates, most of them mild and many of them delightful, Latin America is today, undisputably, the most promising section of the world. It offers inviting advantages which civilized mankind is beginning to appreciate and doubtless the men, the wealth and the scientific energy of Europe and Saxon-America will go there in the near future in search of virgin and most profitable fields for their endeavors.

The strides made in this direction in the last quarter of a century are but a faint sample of what is to be in future years, and in this respect the twentieth century may well be called the Latin-American Century.

The progress of modern civilization in those countries has been retarded by unfavorable conditions that are unknown to their more fortunate northern neighbors; but the good influence of European immigration in some cases, the teachings of sad experiences in others and the extension of commercial intercourse and industrial developments, which are the most powerful and surest pacifiers the world has known, are bringing those countries one after the other to steady, orderly conditions, which are the main element of unrestricted progress.

Even today Latin America with its two thousand millions dollars of foreign commerce, is a potent factor in the trade of the world and its already named facilities coupled to its immense available area, nearly thrice as large as that of this country, give to it boundless future possibilities.

The world has been surprised at the wonderful development of this country, but progress is moving today at a greater pace than ever and will move henceforth at a speed yet unattained; therefore, the development of Latin America, once fully started, should be expected to move faster than that of this country in the past, and it will amaze the world.

The large improvements in port facilities, some accomplished

and some yet in the way of construction, in Mexico, Peru, Chile, Argentine and Brazil; the construction of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway, which has opened up the interior table lands of Ecuador, the Switzerland of America, that follows in part the ancient road of the Incas; of that of Northern Guatemala, to be extended into Salvador and other Central American republics and thereby bring them to the very gates of your city; of the Tehuantepec Railroad, the powerful rival of that of Panama; of the Chile-Argentine Trans-andean Railroad, that opens a shorter route by thousands of miles than that of the Straits of Magellan, and which has brought Argentine closer to the Pacific and Chile within short distance of the La Plata river, and which has killed the rivalry between these two progressive countries by the binding of the steel bars and by the closest ties of social and commercial intercourse; the nearly finished Madeira-Mamore Railway that will open up a very extensive rich country and will tap the northern section of Bolivia towards the Amazon and the other rival lines of railroad that strive to drain the rest of the seven hundred thousand square miles of the marvelously rich Bolivian territory, not to mention minor enterprises, are evident signs of the traffic activities of this last decade in Latin America and precursors of what is yet to come in the future.

I have purposely excluded from the above enumeration the great undertaking of the century, the Panama Canal, for this stands unique in its general, far reaching importance, as ample as the two greatest oceans that it will unite. It will remove within the next year the Andean barrier that divided the extensive West coast of America from the channels of European and Saxon American trade and that will bring it nearer to their terminal ports by many thousands of miles

The commercial advantages that Latin-America will derive thereby, will not exceed in importance the moral benefits to be attained by bringing its inhabitants in closer intercourse with its Saxon neighbors, from which will spontaneously spring mutual acquaintance and hence friendship and love. The great trend of the world is to assimilation; even the Chinese have adopted republican government, similar to yours, and have definitely done away with their queues; in Latin America the assimilation to your ways and customs will be accelerated by the above mentioned intercourse and at no distant date the inhabitants of either one of



BANQUET AT THE GRUNEWALD HOTEL.

these sections will find themselves perfectly at home in the dwellings of the others.

The lessons that are taught by the canal construction are many and most important; the effectiveness of modern systems of administration have been evidenced; the most advanced engineering methods and machinery have been shown; the lock system of raising water levels, of which Latin America is much in need, will be there in permanent exhibition; but the lessons in sanitation have been, in my opinion, the most important and far reaching of all; these are being quickly learned by the Republics to the North and South of Panama, and even the backward port of Guayaquil has now, at a great sacrifice, secured a loan of fifty million francs to undertake its scientific sanitation; but the great victory of sanitary science on the Isthmus has been the practical demonstration that tropical countries can be made immenely habitable by the white men of colder regions and thereby a very large additional area of Latin America will be opened to colonization by them. This is one of the greatest impulses that will be given in future to its development and progress.

The Panama Canal will be an everlasting monument to American energy and skill and it will command respectful admiration to your people from all the world, but specially from Latin Americans, who will be the more frequent and interested visitors thereto.

To this great undertaking the United States has given its wealth, its science and energies, but Panama gave something dearer yet; it gave a part of its own being, a section of itself; as the philanthropist who stands cheerfully painful experimental amputation for the good of mankind, so Panama stood with a sorrowful smile its partition in two, "*Pro mundi beneficio*," as our national motto reads. To this circumstance I presume I owe the high honor of addressing so respectable a gathering on this occasion, for which I sincerely thank you.

In this outlined bright future of Latin America the city and port of New Orleans is destined to be the greatest beneficiary in this country by reason of its advantageous geographical position. Great are its present and its immediate future possibilities, but these enter into the realms of the wonderful when the mind foresees them fourfolded by the projected Lakes to the Gulf Canal scheme and the practicable connection of the Orinoco to the Amazon by

the Casiquiare that will bring the Crescent City in direct communication with the heart of the South American Continent. A great demand will be made on your energies to grasp all these new possibilities, but I am pleased to see, by your present activities, that you will be equal to that emergency, for which permit me to congratulate you.

Captain J. H. Oliver, commanding the battleship "New Hampshire," said:

"His Excellency the Governor of Louisiana, the President of the Louisiana Historical Society, Ladies and Gentlemen: As the oldest of your sailor guests here present, I rise to thank you for the honor you have done us by inviting us to come take part with you in your high festival. We are glad and we are proud to be with you.

We have come to you in our ships, which, if you please, you will look upon as little skiffs belonging to the great Ship of State,

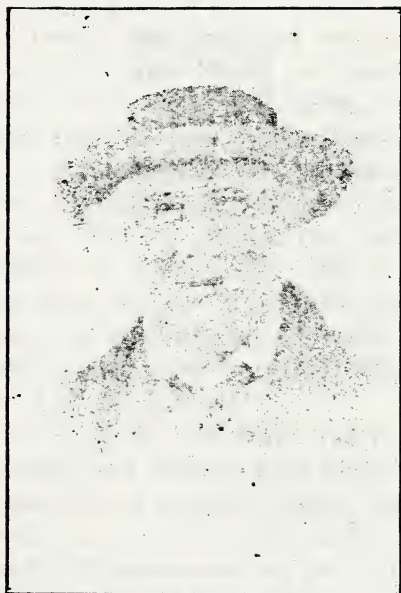
We have earnestly desired that we might worthily and whose building you celebrate to-day.

We have earnestly desired that we might worthily and acceptably act our modest part. mightily fitly represent the arms and men of the sea forces of the great Union.

The full and rich significance of the memorable event whose twice golden anniversary you celebrate now, has been clearly and eloquently set forth in words which have been listened to with delight. You could not expect, nor would you desire, that another less gifted should touch upon a theme already so richly adorned.

In that Union we have in truth a goodly and a glorious heritage. We fondly hope and believe that never shall any estrangement come again; that brethren here shall dwell together in unity forevermore.

We, your visitors from the sea, have now the great pleasure of being with you actually in person, of looking you in the face. Yet in spirit we have long been with you—we were with you long before ever we came here and long after we have gone away we shall be with you still. For over all the wide expanse of earth which is our home each to the other in sincerity and in truth might speak the beautiful words spoken by Ruth to Naomi. For we have one shrine and we are one people,



J. PRUDHOMME.

and it would be vain to entreat us to leave you or to depart from following after you.

The haughty followers of the Prophet, men of warrior breed who look towards Mecca when they pray, have a proud and beautiful saying, that paradise will be found under the shadow of the crossing of the swords. For to men of the martial race always a peculiar splendor attaches to the profession of arms. Of such are the men I have the honor of addressing now. Of such are the radiant maids of Orleans who kindle in those men's hearts the fire which alone makes possible any form of high achievement. As it was in the days of old, so now, you expect of your knights that they will keep their vigils and watch their arms and vow their vows. Sans peur ni reproche, like the chevalier Bayard you trust they will ever be. The high military ideal which you cherish, and which so cherished can never fade away; the pure military ideal, so finely exemplified by the Roman Centurion in his deep reverence for just authority and in his modest faithfulness; oh, you know instinctively, and you feel it in your hearts, that the grand military ideal is the one and only firm foundation of a State. This ideal is the fine flower that grows for only them that love it. Wealth accumulates and men decay, and too low they build who build beneath the stars. So it is written: This lofty ideal springing from lowly self-sacrifice, rises straight to a height of all the most high.

The hereditary ruler of a very great State who is reigning still, who in our day has seized and fastened upon himself the admiring attention of all mankind—a singularly gifted man, whose high and impassioned words have so often stirred and kindled the minds and hearts of men in all lands—speaking only a few years ago of a great and friendly nation just then baffled and bleeding from a dreadful war, said that the defeated nation had so suffered because it had forgot God. What are these words but saying again the psalmist's high and solemn words of exhortation and warning? "If God build not the house, they labor in vain that build it; If God keep not the city, the watchers wake in vain."

The secret of your hearts is revealed, and your ideal, the grand military ideal, shows clear and high from the towering memorial which here in your city in deepest love and reverence you have raised up to one of earth's grandest and best, General Lee.

And now to you, our kind hosts, ladies and gentlemen, I must

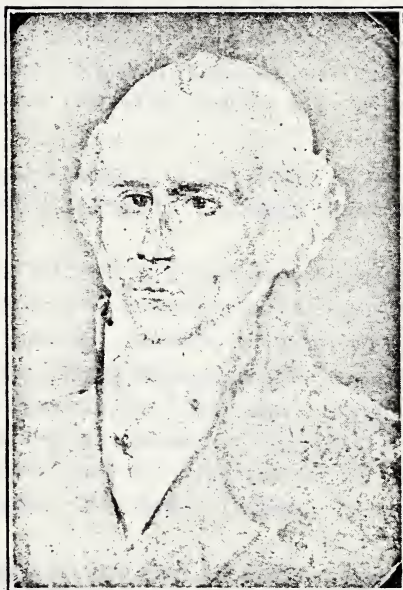
in concluding say once more how glad and proud are we, your sailor friends, to be with you. We should so love to feel, now and hereafter, that we have contributed to your beautiful ceremonies some little, however little, of their impressiveness and splendor.

The toast, "Our Visiting Governors," received a most eloquent and fitting response from Hon. Earl Brewer, Governor of Mississippi. In naming this toast, Prof. Fortier, the toastmaster, said that there is, at this banquet, the real article; two Governors: Hon. Earl Brewer, of Mississippi, and Hon. W. E. Clark, Governor of Alaska.

Governor Brewer's address was characteristic in humor at the start, and in lofty patriotism as he went along. He began with a smiling reference to the handicap he experienced while speaking from the platform in front of the Cabildo, when his speech on "Sister States," was interrupted by a conglomeration of noises, that prevented him from making the talk he had so carefully prepared. What with the music from the brass band, the shouts as the flag was being raised in Jackson Square, the booming of cannon, and the ringing of the bells of the St. Louis Cathedral, he was not able to say what he intended to tell the people of New Orleans.

"Well," remarked Governor Brewer, "all that got the best of me, and I had to subside. Now, as I missed my speech in the day time, I am entitled to two speeches, and I will deliver them. Will somebody please stand at the door and prevent anyone from leaving the banquet Hall. I will make one of these speeches in French because I have some things to say which I do not care a certain lady to understand, and that lady is my wife. However, if there is any objection I will waive the French and talk in plain United States language."

In serious vein, Governor Brewer spoke most fittingly relative to the necessity of educating the youth of the State in the history of Louisiana. This State should equal in intelligence any other State in the Union. Let us live and act so as to help in all things for the upbuilding of the Nation. The greatest menace to our Republic comes from demagogism and cowardice. Also from effete effects of wealth and luxury. Rome and Babylon are numbered with the events of the dead past, because luxury sapped the vitality of their national life.



J. D. D. BELLECHASSE.

"Remember, gentlemen, that our people must come back to frugal habits, to those simple things that make life longer, and men stronger. Let us be honest and square and just and right with the people, and our glorious Republic will last for all days to come."

Governor Brewer next spoke of the inequalities of life; that not all men are equal. There is an aristocracy in the whole universe. The stars are not equal in size and brilliancy; the stately magnolia and the humble violet are not equal in size, in color and in exquisite fragrance. There is an aristocracy among the stars, from the tiniest little speck to the biggest sun near the throne of God.

There is an aristocracy among men, not of wealth or of inheritance, but one of character. When your people shall realize all of this, the time will come for Louisiana to come into her own.

Mr. T. P. Thompson, President of the Board of Curators of the State Museum, replied to the toast, "Louisiana State Museum."

Mr. Thompson said:

"The institution over which I have the honor to preside is the product of the present century; while it contains the records and object matter of the two previous centuries, as they refer to Louisiana, it is only since our recent celebration of Cession of Louisiana in 1903 that the Museum has come into existence. The museum is the result in a great measure of the activities of the Louisiana Historical Society, and was suggested by an esteemed member of that organization, Mr. James Zachary, some twelve years ago.

"Like all great projects no one man is entirely responsible for its being. Dr. W. C. Stubbs was quite as much interested in the agricultural resources of Louisiana as Mr. Zachary was in the history. Their two ideas were joined for practical reasons, and the nucleus of the Louisiana exhibit at the St. Louis Purchase Exposition by the influence of Stubbs, Zachary and the Historical Society was brought back to New Orleans and eventually located at Jackson Square.

"Today after several years of preparation we officially open on the auspicious date of the beginning of the second century of the Statehood of Louisiana.

Is it not a splendid augury for the future prosperity and development of this favored section that her people are now aroused

to the sentiment and progress and grand future that the new century is to unfold, and like other centers of culture and commerce we are able to open today fully equipped an institution which we may all be proud to aid and support. I desire to felicitate the State through our Governor, the city through our worthy Mayor, and the Historical Society through President Fortier, for their magnificent support to this most worthy enterprise. And on behalf of the Board of Curators of the State Museum I desire to extend its hospitality tomorrow at one o'clock to our honored guests who are to make a historic tour of New Orleans, stopping at the Cabildo for refreshment and sight seeing. The hour is late and I will not detain you further. I thank you."



ALEXANDER PORTER.

RESUME OF THE MINUTES OF THE SOCIETY.

By Chas. G. Gill, Recording Secretary.

January 9, 1911.

The annual meeting of the society was held on January 9, 1911, at 8 p. m., in the Public Library Building. Vice-President Soniat called the meeting to order, and stated that President Fortier had gone to Washington with the Committee of the World's Panama Exposition, sent there in the interest of the exposition. Mr. Gill read the minutes of the previous meeting and they were adopted.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Alcée Fortier, President; Chas. T. Soniat, First Vice-President; Gaspar Cusachs, Second Vice-President; A. T. Prescott, Third Vice-President; Wm. O. Hart, Treasurer; Chas. G. Gill, Recording Secretary; Pierce Butler, Corresponding Secretary and Librarian.

Mr. W. O. Hart, acting for the society, placed in the hands of Mr. Chas. T. Soniat a fine set of Sloan's History of Napoleon to be presented to President Fortier as a token of the appreciation of the members for his services as president of the society.

Mr. Soniat with appropriate remarks delivered the books to Mr. James Fortier, son of Prof. Fortier. Mr. James Fortier replied, thanking the society in behalf of his father. Mr. Samuel A. Montgomery, who had been selected to make the annual address on Andrew Jackson, was prevented by sickness from being present.

Mr. W. O. Hart read to the society a paper on the Battle of New Orleans, written by Mrs. Dora R. Miller of the U. S. Daughters of 1776 and 1812.

Col. James D. Hill gave an interesting address on the Battle of New Orleans and on the beneficial results to the United States from the victory. A communication was received from Yale University asking the society to obtain for the university a picture of the Hon. Thomas Slidell. The letter was referred to the Executive Committee.

The meeting was then adjourned.

February 15, 1911.

The regular monthly meeting of the society was held in the Public Library Building, St. Charles and Lee Circle, on Wednesday, February 15, 1911, at 8 p. m.

Pres. Fortier called the meeting to order and Sec. Gill announced a quorum present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. Pres. Fortier thanked the society for the present, Sloan's Napoleon, given him at the last meeting. The society elected Mr. James P. Freret, Mr. S. J. Schwartz, Miss Kate McCall and Prof. E. J. Fortier as members. Mr. H. G. Morgan, Jr., chairman of the Cabildo Committee, reported progress. Mrs. W. S. Hart, of Chicago, wrote asking about the life of Josiah Baldwin. Her letter was referred to Judge Seymour. Mr. Rochester reported for the committee appointed to suggest repairs on old building on Chartres street, where Jackson had his headquarters; that the committee had succeeded in enlisting the aid of Mr. Denis, agent of the landlord. Mr. W. O. Hart read a letter from the secretary of the Perry's Victory Centennial Association acknowledging the letter informing the Centennial Association of the appointment of the committee of the Louisiana Historical Society.

Mr. Hart stated that he had secured photographs of a portrait of Slidell for Yale University.

The committee, Mr. Hart, chairman, reported that the Thackeray Celebration would be at Milneburg, on the night of the regular meeting in March. Mr. Hart stated that the same program would be followed this year on Louisiana Day, April 30th, 1911, and that Camp Beauregard would give prizes for competition in the schools, and that the successful contestants would read their essays on that day.

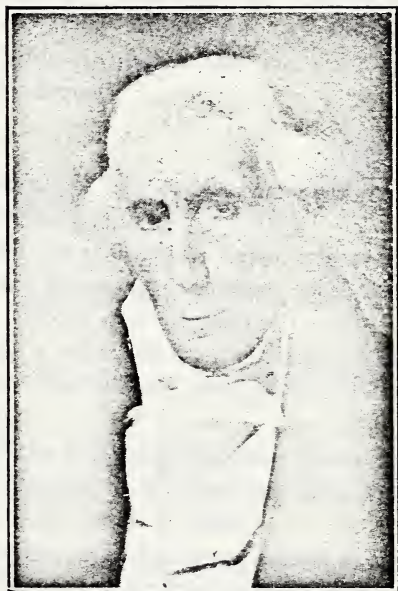
Mr. H. Gibbes Morgan, Jr., read a paper on Pierre Soulé, chiefly dealing with his life as United States Minister to Spain. The paper proved to be a most interesting and valuable historical contribution.

Mr. H. M. Gill read a paper on the "Battle of the Handkerchiefs." He stated that part of his material for the paper had been furnished by Miss Ellen Shute and the greater part he had compiled from newspapers of that time.

This paper with incidents of the Civil War was much enjoyed by the members.

Mr. Morgan and Mr. Gill were thanked by the society for their papers.

The meeting was then adjourned.



JULIEN POYDRAS.

March 28, 1911.

The meeting of the society was held Tuesday, March 28, 1911, at Carrau's, formerly Boudro's Gardens. in Milneburg. Pres. Fortier called the meeting to order with a quorum present and stated that this meeting was held to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of William Makepeace Thackeray, the English novelist and writer. Thackeray visited New Orleans in March, 1858, and his friends entertained him during his visit with a dinner at Boudro's Gardens, Milneburg. So the Louisiana Historical Society had by resolution appointed a committee to arrange a program for this celebration at Milneburg. The program included a dinner, with music and appropriate papers and speeches during the dinner.

April 19, 1911.

The monthly meeting of the society was held in the Public Library Building on Wednesday, April 19, 1911.

Prof. Fortier called the meeting to order with a quorum present. Mr. C. G. Gill, the Recording Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting. These were adopted.

Prof. Fortier made a report of the Thackeray meeting, March, 1911, and the program was made a part of the minutes of this meeting of the society.

The society elected the following members: Messrs. A. G. Brice, Gus. J. Ricau, S. P. Walmsley, C. K. Chalaron, Mrs. T. J. Semmes, Miss Myra Kennedy and Mrs. Gus. J. Ricau.

Mr. Edward J. Fortier, who had been named to represent the society in New York City at the conference for a proposed Dictionary of American Biography, sent his report to the society. The report was read and adopted and made part of the minutes, and Mr. E. J. Fortier was thanked for his services and requested to represent the society at further conferences.

On motion of Mr. Rochester, seconded by Mr. Koppel, Prof. Fortier and Mr. W. O. Hart were selected as representatives of the society at the Iberville Bicentennial to be held in Mobile, May 26th, 1911.

Mr. W. O. Hart presented to the society a copy of the "Memorial Addresses on the Life and Character of Congressman R. C. Davey," and read a selection from Congressman Hepburn's speech

eulogizing Mr. Davey. The society thanked Mr. Hart for the gift. Mr. Edgar Grima presented to the society a letter signed by Henry Clay and one signed by Edward Livingston, valuable for the signatures. The society thanked him for the gifts.

Mr. Hart donated to the society several newspaper clippings, one containing the account of a meeting of the society on January 31, 1848.

Mr. George Koppel was added to the Committee on the Steamboat Celebration.

Mr. W. O. Hart invited the society to be present at the Soldiers' Home on Sunday, April, 1911, when a portrait of Rev. Gordon Bakewell was to be given to the Home.

Mr. Frank E. Bernard read the paper of the evening, entitled, "Acadia, a Missing Chapter in American History." The paper was exceedingly interesting and Mr. Bernard was thanked by the society.

Mr. Gaspar Cusachs read some unpublished historical documents, among them one relating to Pierre Soulé, and another relating to Joachim Murat.

The society then adjourned to meet on call.

November 15, 1911.

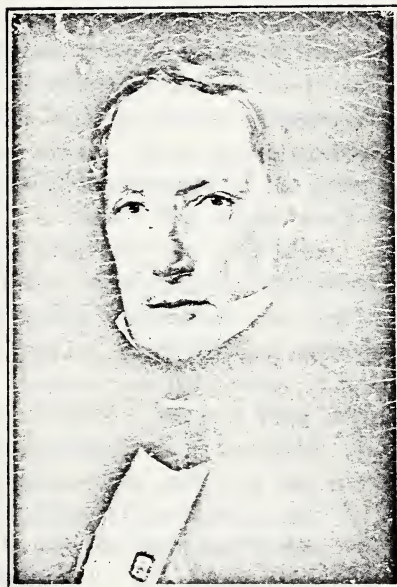
The monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Cabildo on Wednesday, November 15, 1911, at 8 p. m. President Fortier called the meeting to order with a quorum present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Recording Secretary and adopted.

The Membership Committee recommended the following parties for election and on motion they were elected members of the Society: Messrs. Emile Hoehn, Thos. W. Robertson, J. A. Prudhomme, Harry Sellers, M. H. Goldstein, L. D. Lagarde, W. J. Gahan, G. W. Luhman, Capt. L. D. Ott, Capt. P. F. Arroyo, M. H. Lastrappes, Prof. E. Lagarde, Mrs. John H. Henry, Prof. M. J. White and Mr. St. D. J. DeBlanc.

On motion made by Col. H. J. de la Vergne and duly seconded, Hon. Albert Voorhies was made an honorary member of the Society.

Mr. J. J. Rochester, chairman of the Steamboat Celebration Committee, reported progress.

Mr. W. O. Hart, chairman of the Judah P. Benjamin Centennial Celebration Committee, reported that the celebration would



CHARLES OLIVIER.

be held on December 16th, 1911, at the Hall of the Knights of Columbus, and an appropriate program would be prepared.

Mr. H. Gibbes Morgan, Jr., chairman of the committee appointed to prepare the Historical Room for the Society, reported in detail the work of the committee and their suggestions to the Society for further action relative to the Historical Room.

This report was received and referred to the Executive Committee of the Society. And on motion duly made by Chas. T. Soniat and seconded, the Society passed resolutions thanking Mr. Morgan, the committee, and the officers and members of the Board of Curators of the State Museum for preparing the room for the Society. Mr. Thompson spoke at length of the work done to arrange the Museum in the buildings and of the necessity of having possession of the whole building for the purposes of the museum.

Prof. Fortier reported that the committee on the "Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Admission of Louisiana into the Union as a State," had begun work to secure subscriptions and arrange plans for the celebration. Prof. Fortier also made a report of the Bi-Centennial Celebration at Mobile, where he had been sent as the representative of the Society. Mr. Chas. T. Soniat made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the books, manuscripts and documents of the Society be removed from Tulane University to the Cabildo. After a long discussion Mr. W. O. Hart made an amendment, duly seconded, that the removal be made as soon as practicable, and that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee of the Society and the House Committee of the Museum to provide ways and means. The amendment of Mr. Hart was carried.

Mr. Hart gave notice in writing of a proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws of the Society making the dues three dollars per annum, and Pres. Fortier gave notice in writing of a proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws making the annual meeting of the Society the third Wednesday of January, instead of the eighth of January.

Mr. W. O. Hart presented to the Society on behalf of the donors, Misses Jeanne and Louise DeLassus, portraits of Gen. J. B. Plauché and his daughter Mathilde, wife of L. E. Forstall and their son, Emile Forstall, and a portrait of General Carlos DeHault DeLassus. The Society passed resolutions thanking the donors for

the valuable historical gifts, and the Secretary was instructed to convey same to the donors.

Judge Albert Voorhies, who was for many years acquainted with the late Gen. Plauché, spoke at length on his personal reminiscences of Gen. Plauché. The Society thanked him for his address, which was most entertaining.

Pres. Fortier read a letter from Mr. Henry Plauché Dart, the distinguished lawyer of this city and a grandnephew of Gen. Plauché, giving certain facts in the life of the General. Pres. Fortier also gave an account of the life and services of Gen. Plauché to the State.

A picture of Judge Henry A. Bullard, first President of the Louisiana Historical Society, 1836, was given to the Society by Mr. Henry Lastrappes and the Society passed a vote of thanks for the gift.

Mr. Wm. Beer, under the title "European Light on Louisiana History," gave an interesting address on several works and documents pertaining to Louisiana history.

Mr. Hart, chairman of the committee to present the portrait of Gov. Galvez to the Galvez Telephone Exchange, invited the members of the Society to be present at 12 p. m. on Saturday, Nov. 18, 1911.

Mr. W. O. Hart, seconded by Mr. T. P. Thompson, moved that the Society act as hosts to the officers and passengers of the Steamboat New Orleans during their visit to the city, and that members of the Society pay \$3.00 each at the dinner to be given during the celebration of the steamboat's arrival, and that payment for the dinner to the guests above named be made out of the general fund of the Society. Mr. J. J. Rochester was authorized to incur said expenses.

On motion made by Rev. H. E. Gilchrist, duly seconded, Mr. Beer was thanked by the Society for his interesting paper.

Pres. Fortier reported that, as Chairman of the Committee on the Naming of Streets, he had attended several meetings of the Streets and Landings Committee of the City Council, and had succeeded in having historic names retained in some instances and many historic names given to other streets.

Pres. Fortier announced that the paper for the next meeting of the Society would be read by Prof. M. J. White, of Tulane University. The meeting was then adjourned.



J. N. Destréhan.

December 20, 1911.

Pres. Fortier called the meeting to order. Mr. H. M. Gill acted as secretary in the absence of Mr. C. G. Gill.

Mr. Hart, the Chairman of the Galvez Committee, reported that the portrait of Galvez had been presented to the Galvez Telephone Exchange, the program had been successfully carried out, the telephone manager from Nashville and employees from several other cities were present. He filed as a part of the minutes of the Society the program, a newspaper account of the ceremonies and a pamphlet issued by the Galvez Hotel of Galveston.

Mr. Rochester reported orally on the program of the Steamboat Committee, and stated that he would submit, later, a written report including newspaper clippings and letters descriptive of or relating to the reception given the New Orleans and her passengers. Mr. Hart stated that the city, through the Mayor, would give to the Society to erect as a monument, the former pedestal of the Clay monument. On motion of Mr. Hart the details of arrangement of this matter were referred to the Steamboat Committee.

Chairman Hart reported that in presenting the portrait of Judah P. Benjamin to the Benjamin school, Mr. James McConnell and Dr. Gordon Bakewell were added to the speakers on the announced program and that Judge Seymour presented to the school an autographic letter of Benjamin. A copy of the program and newspaper accounts of the exercises will be made a part of these minutes.

Pres. Fortier reported progress in the work of the Louisiana Centennial Committee.

On motion of Mr. Hart the ordinance of the Streets and Landings Committee changing the names of some of our city streets was made a part of the minutes.

Mr. Koppel moved the passage of the amendment that had been properly submitted in writing by Pres. Fortier, changing the date of the annual meeting from Jan. 8th to the third Wednesday in January. The motion was carried.

The Society received invitations to the opening of the Delgado Museum of Art and to the dedication of the library building of the New Hampshire Historical Society and to the banquet in honor of its donor.

The following members were elected: Mrs. Harry Sellers, Prof. J. M. Gwinn, Prof. P. B. Habans, Mr. E. Foster, Rev. W. W. Holmes, Messrs. S. A. Trufant, A. L. V. Vories, Wm. Kernan Dart, C. C. Duble, Stephen H. Allison, Rev. W. Slack, Jos. A. Wisong, J. F. Denechaud, Sebastian Roy.

Mr. Hart presented for Mr. J. A. Wisong the portrait of his distant relative (he has no descendants) Plocia Bossier, a member of the Constitutional Convention, 1811. Mr. Hart presented for Mrs. Hart a badge used at the celebration of the fortieth anniversary celebration of the victory of New Orleans. Thanks were voted both donors.

The papers of the evening were read by Prof. M. J. White and Mr. H. J. de la Vergne. Mr. White's paper, "The New Orleans Riot of 1851 and Its International Aspects," was very interesting. Mr. Cusachs and Prof. Butler added a number of anecdotes relating to the Lopez expedition. Judge Renshaw read the reply of Daniel Webster to the demands of Spain for indemnity on account of the New Orleans riots.

Mr. de la Vergne's paper was a very carefully prepared study of the genealogy of Chas. Frederick d'Arensbourg. A copy of this article was filed with the records of the Society.

Both gentlemen were thanked.

January 17, 1912.

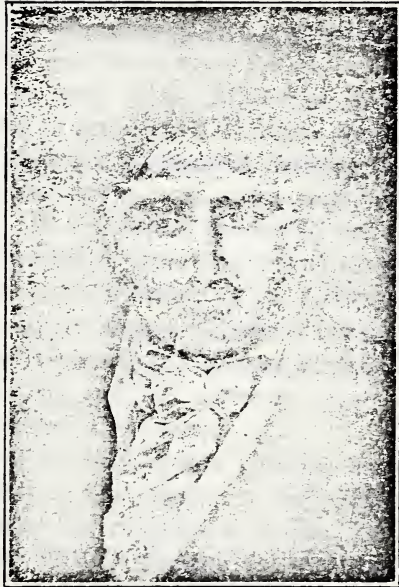
The annual meeting of the Louisiana Historical Society was held in the Cabildo on Wednesday, January 17, 1912, at 8 p. m. Pres. Fortier called the meeting to order and Secretary Gill announced a quorum present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. Mr. W. O. Hart made a report for the Committee on the Steamboat Celebration. This report was adopted and on motion made by Mr. W. O. Hart and duly seconded, the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

New Orleans, January 17th, 1912.

To The Louisiana Historical Society:

The undersigned Committee of Arrangements for the proper celebration of the 100th anniversary of the beginning of Navigation on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, beg leave to report that



H. S. THIBODAUX.

on Monday, November 27th, 1911, the steamer "New Orleans," a replica of the "New Orleans," the first steamboat to navigate the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, arrived in New Orleans after an interesting voyage from Pittsburg, Pa., from which city it departed on November 3rd.

On the boat were sixteen passengers, nine ladies and seven gentlemen, and the boat carried a crew of eighteen. Among the passengers were the President and Secretary of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, under whose auspices the trip was made; and in the party were other distinguished persons of the great State of Pennsylvania.

Your Committee, with other members of the Society, met the boat on the river about nine miles above the city and went on board same, landed with the party at the Branch M. King wharf, and then took the visitors to the City Hall where they were received by the Mayor. An elaborate programme, covering three days, had been prepared, and was carried out, and a copy thereof is made part of this report. In connection therewith, the thanks of the Society should be extended to those who did so much to make the celebration a success, and particularly to the following:

To His Honor, Mayor Martin Behrman, for the splendid reception accorded the visitors in his parlors at the City Hall, on Monday, November 27th, and for numerous other courtesies extended the Committee and the visitors.

To the Council of the City of New Orleans, for an appropriation to assist in defraying the expense of the celebration.

To Mr. J. W. Reynolds, Inspector of Police, for the details of officers furnished for duty at the landing place and at the City Hall.

To Colonel Elmer E. Wood, for his great services as Admiral of the Fleet in arranging the river parade which was a great feature of the occasion, and to Mr. C. C. Duble, who as flag lieutenant, assisted Colonel Wood in carrying out the details of the parade.

To the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, for the use of the harbor boat "Samson" by the committee in meeting the visitors; for assigning, free of all other business, the Branch M. King wharf for the boat, and for arranging a berth for the boat at all times free of expense.

To Mr. Tiley S. McChesney, Assistant Secretary of the Board

of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, for his assistance on the day of the boat's arrival, he joining our party on the trip up the river and arranging the meeting of the "Samson" with the "New Orleans," and the transfer of our Committee and guests from one boat to the other.

To Professor J. M. Gwinn, Superintendent of the Public Schools, to Mr. P. B. Habans, Assistant Superintendent, to Mr. J. M. Gore, Inspector, to Mr. W. M. Levy, member of the School Board, and to Miss M. M. Conway, Musical Directress, for the attendance of so many pupils of the Public Schools, notwithstanding the inclement weather, on the wharf on the arrival of the boat when patriotic and appropriate songs were sung to greet the visitors.

To Captain J. W. Bostick, commanding the Louisiana Naval Reserve, for decorating the vessels of the Naval Reserve and the firing of salutes as the "New Orleans" passed down the river.

To the Collector of the Port, through Deputy Collector L. E. Bentley, for the use of the Revenue Cutter "Davey," as the flagship of the parade, and on which Colonel Wood and his staff led the parade.

To R. W. Wilmot & Co., W. G. Coyle & Co., Mr. P. M. Schneidau, and the Bisso Towboat Company, for their boats which took part in the parade.

To the Era Club, for its committee assisting in the reception at the City Hall, and for a contribution towards the expenses of the celebration.

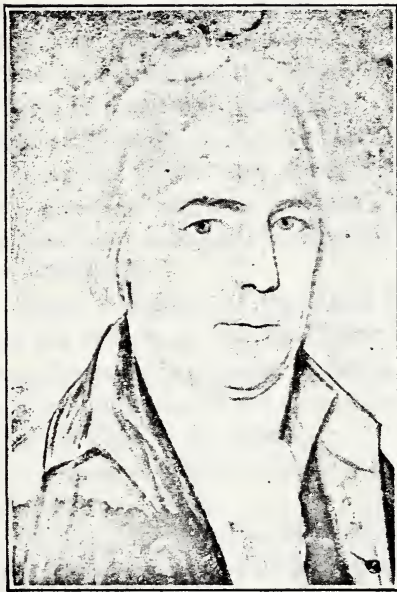
To Messrs. F. Vaccarro, J. Pearce, L. Fabacher, F. B. Hayne, J. S. Saxton, and J. Reuther for the use of their automobiles in conveying the visitors around the city.

To Mrs. J. R. Bonneval for the use of flags for decorative purposes.

To the New Orleans Progressive Union for the luncheon tendered the visitors at its new and magnificent headquarters.

To M. Jules Layolle, through Mr. Harry B. Loeb, for the delightful opera performance tendered the visitors, which was probably more enjoyed by them than any other feature of the entertainment.

To the Crescent Theatre through Mr. T. C. Campbell, and to the Greenwall Theatre, through Mr. A. B. Leopold for tickets to their respective theatres for the crew.



DAVID B. MORGAN.

To Mr. V. Camors and Mr. A. Duvic, for the use of their splendid boats, the "Cavalier" and the "Carmita," for the delightful trip on Bayou St. John to Lake Pontchartrain.

To the New Orleans Credit Men's Association, the Mississippi Packet Company, Captain C. W. Drown, Captain H. M. Carter, Captain L. V. Cooley, the New Orleans Board of Trade, and the Crescent River Bar Pilots Association for their contributions towards the expenses of the celebration.

To the owners of Kenilworth Plantation for the invitation to visit their plantation, which invitation the party was unable to accept owing to the inclemency of the weather.

To the press of New Orleans, The Times Democrat, Picayune, Item, States and Bee for extended notices of the celebration and the publishing of pictures in connection therewith.

To the owners of ships in the harbor, both foreign and domestic; and to the owners of factories along the river front for the whistle salutes given as the "New Orleans" passed down the river, it being impossible to enumerate all because their names are not known to the Committee.

To Mr. R. Glenk, Custodian of the State Museum, for the reception accorded the visitors at that institution.

To Mr. Theo. Grunewald, manager of the Hotel Grunewald, for furnishing us a meeting room for our Committee and for arranging the banquet in the Cave of the Hotel.

To Mr. T. O. Adams, and Mrs. J. M. Gould, for the beautiful music rendered during the banquet.

To Mrs. A. H. Gay, for valuable information regarding the trip of the original "New Orleans," and for a contribution towards the expenses of the celebration.

To Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., for invitation to attend house warming in their new building, which invitation could not be accepted, the visitors having made independent arrangements for the same evening.

To the Boston Club, the Country Club, the Elks, the Harmony Club, and the Young Men's Gymnastic Club for invitation cards furnished the visitors.

To Mr. Rixford J. Lincoln, Poet Laureate of our Society, for his splendid poem entitled "The First Steamboat on the Mississippi River," and to the Rev. A. O. Browne for his poem "Louisiana,

the Land We Live In," both of which were attractive parts of our programme.

To Mr. J. Lisso, of the Paragon Confectionary, for the facsimile of the boat in cake and candy made by him and which was the feature of the banquet.

The Committee, in conclusion, asks that copies of this resolution be certified to by the Secretary of the Society, and sent to each of the persons hereinabove named, to each of the visitors and to the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. ROCHESTER,

Chairman.

JOHN DYMOND,

ALCEE FORTIER,

H. M. GILL,

W. O. HART,

GEO. KOPPELL,

T. P. THOMPSON,

HARRY SELLERS,

Committee of Arrangements.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$370.38 in bank.

Pres. Fortier reported in behalf of the Committee on the Centennial Celebration and told of the progress of the committee. A communication was received from the Forum society asking the Louisiana Historical Society to appoint a member for their advisory council. Pres. Fortier was authorized to make the appointment in case he deemed same advisable. A letter was received from Col. J. C. Sandidge of Bastrop, La., offering to donate Indian relics to the Society. Pres. Fortier was authorized to accept same. Mr. W. O. Hart announced that Mrs. W. W. Howe would donate to the Society a picture of her late husband, who was a former president of the Society. On motion duly made and carried the Society decided to obtain pictures of Judge Martin and Judge Pollock.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year and after due proceedings the following were elected: Alcée Fortier, President; Charles T. Soniat, First Vice-President; Gaspar Cusachs, Second Vice-President; A. T. Prescott, Third Vice-President; W. O. Hart, Treasurer; Pierce Butler, Correspond-



COL. ALEXANDRE LABRANCHE.

ing Secretary and Librarian; Charles G. Gill, Recording Secretary.

President Fortier was authorized to appoint the various committees. Col. James D. Hill delivered the address of the evening, an eulogy on the life and services to Louisiana of the late Gen. Francis T. Nicholls. Col. Hill was thanked for the address.

Mr. W. O. Hart then read a tribute to Gen. Nicholls by Justice F. A. Monroe and also a tribute to Gen. R. E. Lee written some time ago by Gen. Nicholls. Prof. Fortier and other members of the Society contributed remarks relative to the address.

The Society elected as members the following persons: Mrs. C. M. Daigle, Miss D. Gautreaux, Col. Alden McLellan, Gen. T. W. Castleman, Messrs. J. A. Harral, R. F. Green, Gus Gretzner, Loys Charbonnet, A. Baldwin, Sr., John McClosky, A. J. Cohill and Prof. Geo. Soulé.

The meeting was then adjourned.

February 21st, 1912.

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Cabildo on Wednesday, February 21, 1912. Pres Fortier called the meeting to order at 8 p. m., and Secretary Gill announced a quorum present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. Mr. J. J. Rochester, chairman of the Membership Committee, reported, recommending the election of the following members, who were duly elected: Messrs. John Legier, Jr., Martin L. Costley, Sr., Wm. Pfaff, Joseph Given, Ernest Ricker, Chas. T. Starkey, L. E. Bentley, Sol Wexler, Louis Coiron, Martin H. Manion, Albert Toledano, H. H. Newman, C. Marshall, A. F. Théard, Dr. H. B. Gessner, R. J. Anderson, Rev. W. L. Childress, A. G. Stafford, W. A. Kernaghan, F. C. Marx, B. P. Sullivan, A. Rocquet, H. N. Pharr, A. J. Buja, Dr. M. E. Brown, Dr. L. D. Mioton, W. E. Fazende, F. F. Hansell, Robert Ringer, P. C. Cavaroc, John G. O'Kelly, Richard Lambert, H. C. Hailey, H. D. Stamps, P. E. St. Martin, Alfred L. M. Gottschalk, E. P. Andrée, Jules Dreyfous, Ernest L. Jahneke.

Pres. Fortier appointed the following standing committees:
Executive Committee: The officers of the Society.

Membership Committee: J. J. Rochester, chairman; H. G. Dupre and Col. J. D. Hill.

Finance Committee: J. F. Couret, chairman; S. Walter Stern, Frank E. Bernard.

Work and Archives Committee: Alcée Fortier, ex-officio chairman; H. Gibbes Morgan, Jr., T. P. Thompson, H. M. Gill, Pierce Butler, Henry Renshaw, Robert Glenk.

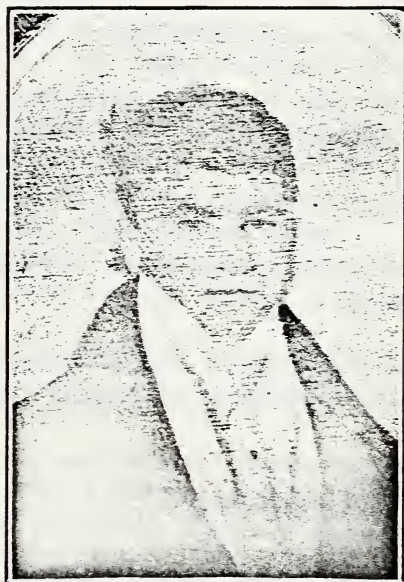
Prof. George Soulé read the paper of the evening, "History of the New Orleans Carnival and the Object and Purposes of the Rex Carnival Association."

A committee, Otto Walther, Dr. G. Keitz, A. G. Ricks, Prof. Charles J. Ransmeier and Gus. Oertling, from the National German American Alliance, presented to the Society a picture of the late Prof. J. Hanno Deiler, for many years a member of the Louisiana Historical Society. Mr. Gus Oertling as spokesman, made the presentation speech, telling at some length the life, services of Prof. Deiler as an educator, an historian and a musician. Pres. Fortier accepted the portrait for the Society and told of the years of intimacy between him and Prof. Deiler as professors at Tulane. The German Quartette Club of which society Prof. Deiler was the founder, sang some of the German songs which were favorites of the professor during his life. At the conclusion of the ceremonies Prof. Fortier in German thanked the German societies on behalf of the Historical Society. The Society passed votes of thanks to Prof. Soulé for his paper and to the National German Alliance for the portrait of Prof. Deiler and to the Quartette Club for their services.

The meeting was adjourned.

March 20th, 1912.

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, March 20, 1912, at 8 p. m. in the Cabildo. Pres. Fortier called the meeting to order and Secretary Gill announced a quorum present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The Society elected the following members: H. P. Schuck, Miss Clara R. Walker, H. H. Marks, B. B. Myles, C. E. Allgeyer, Miss Emma Zacharie, August Schmedtje, P. S. Morris, George Augustin, A. H. White, James M. Thompson, W. G. Coyle, W. S. Dirker, F. L. Dusenbery, W. T. Jay, Ernest M. Loeb, W. R. Irby, Richard Lambert, G. Ad. Blaffer, Miss M. E. McNeill, Ralph Bézou, George M. Hearne, Prof. J. O. McGovney, R. Mc-



M. CANTRELLE.

Williams, E. A. Levey, W. A. Brandao, Rev. George O. Booth, A. S. White, E. M. Eiseman, A. H. Gay, Solon Farrnbacher, Dr. John Smythe, H. C. Elder, J. Wilton Jones, Mrs. John H. Henry.

Mr. Hart in behalf of the Committee on the Centennial Celebration, reported the programme as far as completed. Mr. Hart read an extract from the Delta of 1849 describing the laying of the corner stone of the United States Custom House. Col. Alden McLellan and Mr. P. S. Morris told matters pertaining to the building of the Custom House and Mr. J. Dymond, Sr., spoke of the foundations.

Pres. Fortier called attention to the fact that the only statue of Bienville in the city was in the Custom House and advised that the Society celebrate 1918, the 200th anniversary of the founding of the city, with appropriate ceremonies and that a monument to Bienville be unveiled as part of the ceremonies.

Pres. Fortier gave an interesting account of the lives of the former presidents of the Society, and presented their portraits, which are now on the walls of the Historical Room.

Mr. W. O. Hart on behalf of the Society presented a portrait of Prof. Fortier to be placed with the portraits of the other presidents.

For the paper of the evening Prof. Fortier gave a summary of the recent work of Henry Vignaud, on "Columbus," and read extracts from the book.

The views of Mr. Vignaud are that Columbus set out to find a new world and not to find a new passage to the Indies.

The paper provoked considerable discussion among the members.

The meeting was then adjourned.

April 17th, 1912.

The monthly meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, April 17th, 1912, at 8 p. m., in the Cabildo. Pres. Alcée Fortier called the meeting to order with a quorum present. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and adopted.

Mr. J. J. Rochester, chairman of the Membership Committee, reported that the committee recommended the election of the following persons as members of the Society: Mrs. Wm. J. Castell, Rev. F. L. Gassler, Semmes Walmsley, Jr., P. F. Aroyo, C. W. Drown, A. F. Norris, Robert Ewing, Paul Gelpi, G. C. Lafaye, A.

B. Booth, A. F. Livaudais, Alexis Brian, Mrs. A. H. Gay, James J. Plauché, Jos. F. Walton, Allison Owen, Edgar T. Leche, F. Hellwig, C. A. Stair, V. J. Gelpi, W. K. Nours, Miss Florence Loeber, C. C. Henson. These were elected. Mrs. W. J. Behan made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the Society appoint a committee to memorialize the Legislature of Louisiana by resolution to adopt as the State flag the flag now in use, blue field with pelican, etc.

The motion was carried and the President authorized to appoint the committee. The several chairmen of the various committees on the Centennial Celebration reported progress.

Dr. Y. R. LeMonnier delivered an interesting and valuable historical address on "Louisiana's Part in the Battle of Shiloh." The Society thanked Dr. LeMonnier for the address. On motion of Mr. W. O. Hart, Rev. Gordon Bakewell was made an honorary member of the Society.

Mr. P. E. St. Martin donated to the Society through Prof. Fortier some papers and documents relative to war times in St. John Parish, etc.

In answer to a request, Mr. Alden McLellan of the Beauregard Monument Association stated that a sketch of the monument would soon be exhibited in New Orleans by the sculptor.

The Society adjourned to meet the third Wednesday in May.

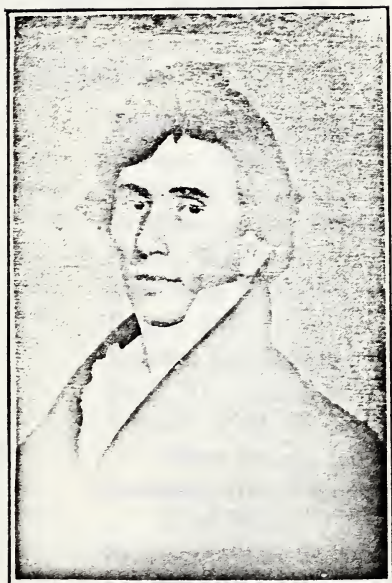
May 15th, 1912. -

The Society met at 8 p. m. in the Cabildo. Pres. Fortier called the meeting to order with a quorum present. Sec. Gill read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted. Mr. J. S. Lowrey through Mr. Archie Smith sent to the Society two bullets found on the battlefield of Mansfield.

Mr. E. F. Pilie donated to the Society some valuable historical papers.

Pres. Fortier made a report for the Committee on the Centennial Celebration and read many letters and telegrams from distinguished persons relating to the celebration. The Society decided to place the letters and telegrams in a binder or book so as to preserve same.

The meeting was then adjourned.



P. BOSSIER.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS, 1912.

OFFICERS.

Prof. Alcée Fortier, President.
 Mr. Charles T. Soniat, First Vice-President.
 Mr. Gaspar Cusachs, Second Vice-President.
 Prof. Arthur T. Prescott, Third Vice-President.
 Mr. W. O. Hart, Treasurer, 134 Carondelet street.
 Mr. Charles G. Gill, Recording Secretary, 606 Common street.
 Prof. Pierce Butler, Corresponding Secretary and Librarian,
 2224 Milan street.

MEMBERS.

Agar, Mr. William	Breaux, Judge Joseph A.
Ahrens, Mr. H. H.	Bremer, Miss Cora
Arroyo, Capt. P. F.	Bradford, Mrs. J. L.
Avery, Prof. W. J.	Brockmeier, Rev. Francis C.
Alison, Mr. S. H.	*Brice, Mr. A. G.
Anderson, Mr. R. J.	Bres, Miss Katherine
Andrée, Mr. E. P.	Brown, Rev. O. A.
Allgeyer, Mr. C. E.	Bruenn, Mr. Bernard
Augustin, Mr. Geo.	Buck, Mr. Charles F.
Allen, Mr. William	Burnett, Prof. F. H.
*Baldwin, Mr. Albert, Sr.	Baton Rouge, La.
Baldwin, Mr. Albert, Jr.	Breazeale, Hon. Phanor,
Baldwin, Mr. H. F.	Natchitoches, La.
Baldwin, Mr. J. P.	Broussard, Hon. R. F.
Beer, Mr. William	New Iberia, La.
Behan, Mrs. W. J.	Butler, Prof. Pierce
Behrman, Hon. Martin	Bankston, Mrs. M. R.
Bernard, Mr. Frank E.	Bright, Mr. E. H.
Baugnot, Mrs. Aimée	Baumgarden, Mr. N. E.
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Volume VII---1913-14

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PREFACE

The present volume constitutes the seventh in the series of the Louisiana Historical Society's publications. It contains the record of its proceedings for two years, 1913-1914, with the general report of the Assistant Secretary. Among the essays read before the Society are to be noted for the importance of their historical information and the breadth of their treatment. "The Early Financing in New Orleans," by Mr. T. P. Thompson, a masterly review of the banks and their operations in New Orleans from 1831 to 1914, forming the history of that noted local institution, the Canal Bank; the "Biographical Notes on the Life of Samuel J. Peters," one of the greatest of the American citizens, who came to New Orleans after the cession of Louisiana to the United States to turn the old Spanish-Creole city into an enterprising money-making metropolis, guiding it through its early civic and financial struggles into the prosperity it enjoyed during the decade 1850-60. Both papers mark a high level of literary and historical interest. "Walt Whitman in New Orleans," by William Kernan Dart, gives new and original information about the poet and is, therefore, an especially valuable contribution to the Society's records and one that the Society is proud in her turn to print for the benefit of literature. "Fort Macomb," by Mr. P. M. Milner, records an original excursion into the geographical field of the State that the Society welcomes and heartily commends as example to other members belonging to the Historical Society and also to the Motor League. In fact the contents of this volume show a most gratifying and fruitful result of the growth of the Society, since the first publication (in this series) in 1895.

It was in 1893, as some of us may remember, that the Society was reorganized; resurrected, were the better word; for it was then and had been for several years to all intents and purposes a lifeless body and as such a humiliating spec-

tacle and a reproach to the community that had permitted it twice in its lifetime to fall perishing from inanition by the wayside of intellectual progress. Colonel William Preston Johnston, president of Tulane University, as we are proud to recall it, was the good Samaritan in this case, who, instead of passing by on the other side, came forward, and out of the press of his multitudinous duties, yet found time and attention to bestow on the neglected responsibility of others. Calling to his help a small number of friends who were lovers of Louisiana history he charged them to do what was needful toward resurrecting the Society and restoring it to the good services of the State. And as he saw with the eyes that never were mistaken about a patriotic duty, never was a State more in need of a Historical Society than Louisiana at that time. After thirty years of the continuous political struggle imposed upon her by the consequences of her defeat in the Civil War, combatting with inadequate means the further disastrous afflictions of overflows, epidemics and agricultural failures; with her educational system demoralized, to paraphrase the rather senseless phrase; she had been too busy suffering history to care for the perpetuation of its records. In truth, she seemed under the cruel tyranny of her Present to be dispossessed of her Past as well as Future, with the exception of the years of the Civil War whose memories were being faithfully gathered and held together in their own sacred shrine.

The City and State archives were crumbling away in neglect to absolute destruction. The State Historical Library, with its glorious traditions of Gayarré, existed only in the fragments and ruins of its once peerless collections. The history of Louisiana was not even taught in her own public schools, whose children, weaned from their own proper historical nourishment, were given only the artificial substitutes imported from the more provident supplies of other States. They were indeed fostered in the belief that Louisiana had no history of her own, and that she was a waif and a stray in the history of the United States.

Colonel Johnston's little band of workers were few in number and each one was engaged in a separate line of research, but they unhesitatingly sacrificed their private interests and enthusiasm, or rather merged them in the one great effort demanded. And now, twenty years later, when, after a long and hard road has been travelled and an eminence attained, we may surely be forgiven a desire to look back on the journey traversed and speak of the stages that marked it.

As to numbers, the membership for years was pitifully small, and the attendance at the monthly meetings was so insignificant that at times the hope for the future of the Society seemed indeed a forelorn one; but as in other trials it was found that courage and determination to succeed could make a great force out of a small one. Zealous devotion to their common ambition held the members together, and year after year the routine work of the Society was carried on laboriously and faithfully, as the carefully preserved minutes testify; and out of this work has grown the wide spreading, sturdy Society of 1915. The publications were then the slim and exiguous pamphlets, prized to-day as rarities in historical collections. They were brought forth with travail of spirit and were for their time examples of thrifty bargaining between printer and Treasurer. But not one of the humble bulletins, as a cursory review will show, but carries its proud trophy of some hitherto unpublished document, some precious prize of original research. The ardent if not violent discussion of these papers, or of some rare book laid on the president's table for examination, furnished the entertainment for the monthly meeting. It was a time when rare volumes could be found in the book shops of the city and precious documents unearthed from rubbish heaps. Indeed all the achievements in which the Society takes a justifiable pride to-day figured in the weak days of the resuscitated Society, as hopes and ambitions, some of them too dazzling, it was feared, ever to be realized. In a world where disappointments are popularly credited with

an ever sure and certain majority over hopes realized it is well to bear witness when the contrary is supported by experience.

The slim exiguous pamphlets, as we see, have expanded into a full-sized and most respectable historical publication.

The list of members has lengthened to what is now a roll call of the best people in the State and City.

From the occasional experimentative exhibits of the gems from the collections of some of our members; portraits, miniatures, letters, official documents, maps, engravings and small historical bric-a-brac, were brought together and placed in improvised cases at a cost of infinite trouble and work by always the same devoted committee of three who watched over the little exhibit with agonizing solicitude for fear of accidents; out of that endeavor to interest the populace in a historical exhibit has developed a handsome, impressive Museum, filled with an inestimable wealth of historical treasure. A historical Museum housed in the old Cabildo, maintained by the State, visited by thousands, was one of the handsomest hopes in the old days of struggle for existence. You will find it figuring all through our early minutes. It was a gigantic hope for a small Society to cherish, but as we see it has been accorded realization even in a more bountiful measure than we prayed for.

And perhaps most important item of all in the enumeration, the one promising the most important vital results, the history of Louisiana is taught in the public schools of the State. Place has been made for it in all curriculums, and the Louisiana children are no longer shamed by the proud children of other State, boasting the priceless heritage of a historical past. The Society's medals offered as prizes for work in Louisiana history, are eagerly welcomed by teacher and scholar, competed for with intelligence and literary grace, and received with pride and gratification. Our valuable historical library, tended and fostered, has been increased and strengthened, and its shelves placed within reach of all students. And in connection with our library.

one of our most venerated and cherished purposes is even now on the way of fulfillment, and a sin of deplorable neglect of duty being eased from our collective conscience. This is the indexing and cataloguing of the papers contained in the numerous "black boxes," as they are currently designated, that, once in the State House at Baton Rouge, have come into possession of the Historical Society, after many vicissitudes and escapes from destruction during the Civil War. The boxes contain the records of the routine transactions of the Superior Council, the chief governing body of the French regime in the Louisiana colony, from the time of its planting, through the Spanish regime to the American domination, that is, from 1769 to 1803.

The Society by one of the providential favors that have cheered its existence during the past, has been able to profit by the sojourn in our city of one of the most competent and noted archivists in the country, and secure his most valuable services for the task which heretofore had baffled the patience and skill of the volunteer workers from among its members. When completed, and, according to present hopes, published, this will furnish to the political and historical student body of the country, and to other historical societies entrance to a mine of rich material hitherto closed to research or only obtainable in fragmentary or irregular quantities. This work will, without doubt, constitute one of the most brilliant services of the Society to the State.

And not to be passed over on this occasion is the fine educative precedent established by the State in confiding to the Historical Society, as a part of its official functions, the charge of the proper observance of historical anniversaries, and thereby assuring to the celebration of the great events in the history of the State a fitting dignity of programme with historical accuracy of detail which make them elevating and patriotic in the highest sense of the word.

The celebration of the Centennial of the Cession of Louisiana by France to the United States in 1903 was the occasion of a great and proud demonstration in ceremonial form

by the Society representing the State, in honor of the most solemn and important events of her history. In 1915 was celebrated in no less imposing a manner the centennial of the Battle of New Orleans and of one hundred years of peace with England, inaugurated by the battle. The three days' pageant, comprising the mimic representation of the events that followed the battle, is too recent a memory, and has been too generously noted by the press of the country, to need more than a mere reference. The details of the celebrations and all the official documents pertaining to it will be perpetuated in a separate publication, as was accorded by the Society to the celebration of the Cession of Louisiana.

GRACE KING.

25th March, 1915.

EARLY FINANCING IN NEW ORLEANS.

1831—BEING THE STORY OF THE CANAL BANK—1915.

By Mr. T. P. Thompson.

INTRODUCTION.

On March 5th, 1831, the *New Orleans Canal and Banking Company* was given authority by the Louisiana State Legislature to incorporate and to go into business; \$4,000,000 was the capital authorized, and the construction of a navigation canal above Poydras street from the city to lake Pontchartrain was the improvement which warranted the state in chartering this enterprise.

The brain and ability which conceived the idea of an "improvement bank" was furnished by Maunsell White. Beverly Chew was invited by Col. White to join him in exploiting his plan. Both of these men came to New Orleans just before the cession of Louisiana to the United States. Beverly Chew was of the firm of Rely and Chew; Commission Merchants; a partner of this firm in 1810 was Daniel Clark, father of Myra Clark Gaines, whose suit for her alleged father's estate was most noted in the legal history of this country. Chew was at a later period President of the United States Branch Bank which opened at Royal and Conti in 1804, and he there became friendly with Maunsell White, one of its leading directors.

DeBow in 1853 writes: "The name of Maunsell White has been familiar in New Orleans during the whole period of its American history; he has ever sustained the reputation of a good man, a useful citizen, and an enterprising and irreproachable merchant. His commercial operations have given him high position throughout the whole Valley of the Mississippi.

"Colonel White arrived in this country from Ireland in early youth and reached New Orleans in 1801, when it was hardly more than a respectable village, and when only scat-

tering settlements were to be found on the Ohio or the Mississippi as low down as Point Coupee.

"He was at an early period Chairman of the Finance Committee in the Council of New Orleans, and there worked out a plan to make property pay for street paving, he was also a pioneer for defending the city from inundation by protecting levees.

"Maunsell White retired from active business in the early forties to his plantation 'Deer Range' in Plaquemines, which parish he represented in the State Senate, of which body he was elected President, and served on the Committees of Finance and Commerce. He was also an administrator of the University."

In a directory of 1822, Maunsell White is set down as Commission Merchant at No. 3 Chartres St. Dwelling, 16 Canal, below Chartres.

In 1827 he moved to 48 Camp Street for his business office, and began living in the town house which he afterwards occupied for twenty-five or more years, at Julia and St. Charles Street.

Maunsell White has a peculiar monument to his memory today—his name being given in the fifties to a pepper sauce. In down-town restaurants you may still get a particular pepper by asking for *Maunsell White*, just as you may grow hilarious calling for "Roffignac," (Mayor in 1820 of New Orleans), whose name lives in a drink still affected by old-timers.

As stated, Louisiana authorized by charter the New Orleans Canal and Banking Company to construct a navigation canal at a point above Poydras street. This enterprise proved epochal; beginning as it did, a most wonderful era of activity and improvement in New Orleans.

The successful construction of a completed canal, at the moderate cost of \$1,119,000, about half the cost as estimated, was a demonstration of such economy and excellence, that numerous other "improvement companies" quickly followed, and The Gas Works Company, the St. Louis Hotel.

the St. Charles Hotel,—completed in 1836,—the Water Works Company of 1837, as well as many new railroad projects, including the Carrollton Railroad, were very shortly started into existence, all with similar banking characters: All completed their “improvements”—none but the Canal survived in banking.

The man who devised this plan which seemed so well suited to the times, was Maunsell White, and he, Beverly Chew, Archibald Taylor, Samuel Livermore, James Foster, Charles Genois and D. F. Burthe, were appointed by Governor Derbigny and the Senate of the State of Louisiana, to act as Commissioners, with due authority to open books of subscription to stock in the New Orleans Canal and Banking Company, and to raise the capital required for the public work involved. The records show that the capital was soon oversubscribed and that the bank proceeded to business at once; even to completing its own office building in 1832.

Colonel White and Beverly Chew, together, by personal effort, brought into existence this new giant corporation with \$4,000,000 of actual money, and as commissioners set it going. Six years later, the completed canal was turned over to the State, and today is a most valued convenience of commerce and source of revenue. The banking business also went ahead, and in spite of panics, war, overflow and pestilence, has maintained a consecutive organization up to and into the present period of sky-scrapers, automobiles and aeroplanes, adopting new methods, even building itself a sky-scraper. It has conformed to every change of trade, always adapting itself to the demands of its customers, ever retaining its name and its character for integrity; performing a quasi-public service down to the present year, when the community is getting ready to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, in which the promoting principals of this bank—Beverly Chew, Maunsell White and Geo. B. Ogden, each actually took part. Is it not well worth recording—this long and honorable career?

COLONIAL DAYS.

Perhaps a chronological arrangement of notes gathered to illustrate the progress and times of the Canal Bank, and to incidentally bring to memory some of the financial history of New Orleans, may serve better than a narrative for the purposes of this sketch.

Nouvelle Orleans, capital of the French province of Louisiana, was itself founded by order of a banking corporation; the famed *Mississippi Company*, John Law, Director General.

Bienville, governor, and now official manager, received orders in 1717 when this Company was organized, to remove his settlements from the gulf coast to the banks of the Mississippi. A trading post was set up in 1718, warehouses built, and a few years later, the infant capital came into existence and remained the governing seat for forty-six years thereafter under the French when the cession to Spain took place, and thence forward or through the American possession.

The Mississippi Company issued stock in great quantity, the basis being largely their monopoly of the trading rights of the Mississippi Valley. Paper bills and copper coins were supplied to colonists as a circulating medium.

In 1723 the "Mississippi Bubble," as it became known in history, had reached that point in its famous career where its embarrassments were becoming known in Louisiana. The colonists who had been sent over by the Company soon found themselves participating in the general distress, resulting from having adopted an absurd system of credits among each other in imitation of the John Law Company, all differences and debts being paid with the paper of the Company which everybody believed in. The embryo city very soon found herself the natural deposit point of an agricultural province, extending almost to the Alleghanies and to the Illinois country. There were actually in the scattered colony some five thousand souls in 1725.

When the financial collapse of 1726 took place, the colonists were roughly extricated from their mutual obligations by the very crude method of scaling—which was enforced by royal edict and repeated four times; rock-bottom eventually being reached, prosperity, though much shorn, was at least on a better foundation than before, and products increased in plenty.

The Company of the Indies absorbed the Mississippi Company in 1727, and began active work in developing the trade and building up the little city. This concern surrendered its privileges in 1731, and New Orleans now became free from monopoly rights on its commerce.

Good trade sprang up with the West Indies and the ports of France, immigration set in and the emission of paper money in increasing quantity year by year brought life into commerce which continued on through the Spanish Domination, although Spain had almost the same disregard for the integrity of its paper money as had been shown by the previous governing power. Those, however, were happy-go-lucky days, and marketable products were abundant—flatboats were regularly coming down from the Kentucky country, and trade was thriving.

Banking proper in New Orleans began immediately after the Purchase of Louisiana. Before that time, during the latter part of the Spanish regime, there were, however, a few commission merchants, (prominent among them Oliver Pollock and Daniel Clark), who did private banking, and made advances to planters.

Silver money was brought from Mexico by the Spanish governors, and whenever small change became scarce, these coins were cut into bits! A half-dollar was four bits, a quarter; two bits, this coin being further subdivided into five picayunes, etc.

With the American possession came the cessation of imports of specie from Vera Cruz, which very soon brought about a great scarcity of money, and made it imperative to have local banks of discount and issue.

IN 1803.

The transfer of Louisiana to the United States was the signal for a large immigration of American merchants into New Orleans from Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other Atlantic coast cities, Beverly Chew, Judah Touro. Maunsell White, John McDonough, Rezin Shepherd, Samuel Lockwood, Richard Relf, J. W. Zacharie and Geo. B. Ogden were of this number.

1804.

This year the city was made a port of entry, and incorporated, there was also elected the first mayor of the American City of New Orleans—Etienne Bore.

Thomas Jefferson at once influenced the establishment of a branch of the Bank of the United States at New Orleans, in 1804, and in the same year there began the organization of the Banque de la Louisiana, its Board being made up principally of New Orleans merchants, with Julien Poydras, the wealthiest planter in the Territory of Orleans, as president, and Stephen Zacharie, cashier. The directors included: John McDonough, Nicholas Girod, Richard Relf and Thomas Urquhart.

This first local bank—the *Banque de la Louisiana*, was founded with a capital of \$600,000, by the activity of Governor W. C. C. Claiborne, the charter being passed by the Orleans Territorial Assembly on March 4th, 1804. This was the first bank to issue paper notes to supply the increasing demands of trade. Its formal opening took place January 1st, 1805.

It was with great difficulty that any headway was made because of a lack of confidence in this new paper money. begotten by two previous failures of a paper system: the first by the French Superior Council, and again by the Spansih Cabildo, which also proved exceedingly slow in redeeming its "liberanzas."

In the year 1805, the Company of Navigation was or-

ganized to build a canal through Canal street, and were allowed by charter thirty years in which to complete their undertaking. After digging a great ditch, they abandoned their purpose and took charge of the Carondelet Canal, which had been completed by the Spanish Governor of that name in 1796. This old Canal street canal remained open for drainage use until after the Civil War.

The population of New Orleans, approximately 10,000 at this time, increased to nearly 18,000 in 1810, and exports of cotton soon reached 100,000 bales. Bienville's original *vieux carre* could no longer hold the increasing population; Marigny's plantation below Elysian Fields, and the Gravier plantation above the Common, were cut into streets and lots.

The first real boom now began in this newest American city; a university, a library, and several insurance companies were established, suburban lot-sales and the plentiful supply of money from the two banks in which the people now had confidence, all made for a brisk new trade. The batture landing in front of Tchoupitoulas road above and in front of the Common was filled with all kinds of curious river craft; flat-boats, arks, and rafts—trading was rife—New England sailing vessels in a great fleet tied up before the city with all manner of goods ready to exchange for the Ohio and Mississippi Valley products. Commission merchants and brokers of all kinds coined money in this open air exchange.

According to the *Annuaire Louisianais*, a little French directory printed in "Nouvelle Orleans for 1809," the personnel of the bank boards of that year, were: Banque de la Louisiane: Julien Poydras, president; Nicholas Girod, Richard Relf, Michel Fortier, Franc Duplessis, Thomas Urquhart, Paul Lanusse, J. B. Labatut, Francois Livaudais, Jas. Carrick, Jean Soulie, J. McDonough, Jr., Wm. Donaldson, Samuel Winter and Jas. Pitot directors, with J. B. Fitzgerald, cashier. The office was No. 18 Rue Royale.

Banque des Etats-Unis: Benj. J. Morgan, president; Di-

rectors—Geo. T. Phillips, Wm. Brown, Joseph McNeill, W. C. Mumford, Beverly Chew, Anthony Cavalier, Jr., John W. Gurley, Wm. Kenner, J. C. Wederstrandt, John G. Bartlet, R. D. Shepherd, J. Saul, cashier.

There was a maritime Insurance Company and a Fire Insurance Company, the "Phenix."

Thomas Jefferson was then President of the United States, W. C. C. Claiborne, Governor of Orleans Territory; Daniel Clarke, Delegate to Congress, and J. Mather, Mayor of New Orleans.

1810.

By this year the population had been augmented by the immigration from San Domingo of some 6,000 French-speaking people, most of whom brought money and slaves. There was also a continuous stream of Americans coming into the town, thus nearly doubling its population during the seven years after the Purchase. The Legislature established this year two new banks: The Orleans, 14 Conti St., capital \$500,000, and the Planters, capital \$600,000. This was made necessary by the scarcity of specie now no longer imported from Mexico.

Canal street was laid out this year, and many stores were being erected on the lower side. The Gravier plantation above the commons was being sold into suburban lots. The United States Census gave the New Orleans population as 17,242.

In 1811 Congress created the State of Louisiana, and the following year sanctioned the Constitution adopted by the people of Louisiana, now numbering 75,000, and the "Florida Parishes" north of the river Iberville, (Manchac), were annexed to the State.

The first steamboat seen on the Mississippi made her appearance in 1812 at New Orleans, as if in celebration of the birth of Louisiana as a State. She came from Pittsburgh in seven days.

1814.

The increasing prosperity of New Orleans was threatened by the appearance in the Gulf of an English fleet of thirty vessels. Pakenham's army was about to descend upon and attempt the capture of the city.

General Andrew Jackson promptly came to the rescue and took charge of the defenses, Edward Livingston, John Grymes, A. D'Avezac, Maunsell White, George Ogden and Beverly Chew, with others of high standing, conferring with Jackson at Masperos' Exchange. The building is still standing at St. Louis and Chartres. The plans for the Battle of New Orleans were gone over, and within sixty days came the great victory which has sealed until this day the peace pact between Great Britain and the United States.

Prosperity followed the war. Agriculture acquired new strength; planters from other States, attracted by the superior fertility of the soil, emigrated into Louisiana in great number.

1816.

Sugar brought good prices and new cane plantations were formed at a distance from the river. The estimated capital invested in sugar making, was \$36,000,000; New Orleans became the great emporium of the South and Southwest. Big warehouses were built and the wharves became crowded with ships and steamboats, building lots this year rose to enormous value, and suburban plans included the new city of Lafayette, now Fourth District, about Jackson Avenue.

A second Bank of the United States was this year incorporated and a branch established in New Orleans.

In 1818 the State Bank of Louisiana was incorporated with a capital of two millions; this was the first bank to be established after Louisiana had been made a State. The old Banque de la Louisiane began this year to liquidate, complying with its charter.

In 1820 the population of Louisiana had grown to 153,000,

about doubling during the last ten years. New Orleans was credited with 27,126, an increase of some sixty per cent.

1822.

The first American business directory was published in 1822 by a man from Philadelphia named Paxton. The book had just 100 pages. It claimed for the Parish of Orleans some 40,000 population, which would be an increase of some 12,000 in two years. He speaks of a new American theatre then building, on Camp between Gravier and Poydras, by James H. Caldwell, and of the leading hotel, the Planters and Merchants, with one hundred rooms, situated on Canal street, upper side, where is now located the Canal street savings branch of the Canal Bank.

Paxton comments on the beginning of a general street paving this year, the first stretch above Canal street being on Gravier between Tchoupitoulas and Magazine. Chartres street and Royal had already been completed with curbstones and raised sidewalks.

The record of arrivals at the port of New Orleans for 1821 was: Steamboats 287, barges and keels 174, flat-boats 441. Tonnage from foreign countries 74,742. American bottoms 71,158 tons. Value of exports approximated \$16,000,000.

Maunsell White & Co. were set down as merchants, and had their business place at No. 3 Chartres. His residence was on Canal near Chartres. George Ogden was at No. 37 Royal.

Beverly Chew was collector of the Port of Orleans; office at the Custom House, residence No. 55 Julia near Tchoupitoulas. Joseph Roffignac was Mayor.

William Nott was president of the United States Branch Bank, capital \$1,000,000, Royal and Conti, down-town wood side; Directors: David Urquhart, W. Montgomery, Benj. Story, John Oldham, G. Dorsey, Geo. Johnston, James Dick, John A. Fort, Beverly Chew, Louis St. Blanchard, with

Charles S. West, cashier. This was the second United States Bank, and was incorporated 1816.

Joseph Roffignac was president of the Louisiana State Bank, corner of Royal and Conti, uptown river side, incorporated 1818. The directors were: M. Duralde, A. L. Duncan, P. Poutz, P. Edmond Foucher, Thomas S. Kennedy, Louis LeSassier, J. A. Bernard, A. Blanc, J. B. Lepretre, D. Boulligny, N. Lauve, D. De la Ronde, J. B. Vignie, H. Carleton, A. Longer, C. Paulding, P. Livaudais; Richard Relf, cashier; capital \$1,600,000. Branches were established at Baton Rouge, Donaldsonville, St. Martinsville and Alexandria.

Bank of Orleans; 14 Conti, incorporated 1811, had this year as president, Z. Cavalier. Directors: H. Landreaux, John Hagen, Joseph Saul, M. Gordon, J. M. Reynolds, S. Henderson, J. W. Morgan, J. Linton and Wm. M. Saul, cashier. Capital, \$500,000.

Planters Bank; 51 Royal St., L. Millaudon, president. Directors: Maunsell White, John G. Brown, J. Chabaud, Fred Percy, Antony Abat, N. Bertoli, Jacques Zino, Jos. Abat and Nathaniel Cox.

There were three substantial insurance companies in the city also, according to the directory for 1822.

1824.

In 1824 there began a spirit of overtrading. The flourishing condition of agriculture and commerce and the big profits being realized, excited a desire among merchants and others to extend their business; additional funds were required and this brought about the creation of a new capital of \$4,000,000 in the Bank of Louisiana; the State took half of this stock, a step which proved later not sound in profit nor in precedent.

In 1826 a Board of Internal Improvements, consisting of five members to be appointed annually by the Governor, was created by an Act of Legislature.

Paxton's New Orleans Directory for 1827, which was the fourth English printed edition since his first in 1822, shows New Orleans now grown to Delord street uptown and down to Clouet street below Canal street. Exports of cotton reported for 1821-22: 156,080 bales; 1822-3, 171,431; 1823-4, 143,943; 1824-5, 204,557; 1825--6, 251,924. Tobacco exports averaged 25,000 Hdgs. same period.

There were 110 steamboats "in the Orleans trade," and countless fiatboats at the batture above Canal street.

The branch Bank of the United States had John A. Fort as president and Thomas Wilson, cashier. Directors; Maunsell White, Beverly Chew, David Urquhart, W. W. Montgomery, Stephen Henderson, Wm. G. Hewes, David Olivier, James Colles, M. Morgan, James Hopkins, St. Rose F. Gilbert. Capital \$1,000,000.

Louisiana State Bank; Dusuau de la Croix, president. Directors, by State: Joseph Roffignac, Geo. P. Bowers, Nathaniel Cox, John F. Canonge, James Workman. By stockholders: A. Charbonnet, M. S. Cucullu, L. DeFeret, C. Toledano, Richard O. Pritchard, L. LeSassier, W. C. Withers, F. A. Blanc, J. B. Lepretre, C. M. Plique, John Garbier, John Dongpre, Richard Relf, cashier. Capital \$2,000,000.

Bank of Louisiana, capital \$4,000,000. Benjamin Story, president. Directors by stockholders: James Dick, Thomas Barron, Archibald R. Taylor, Hart M. Schiff, Gilbert Vance. Joseph Fowler, Jr. Directors by the State: James M. Reynolds, John Hagan, Louis Labranch, Henry Babcock, Thomas Banks, A. Maurin, Joseph Saul, cashier. R. J. Palfrey, cashier at Donaldsonville; F. Menard, Baton Rouge; J. B. Heno, Alexandria; Thos S. Saul, Opelousas; John Stirling. St. Francisville.

Bank of Orleans, Z. Cavalier, president. Directors: J. H. Leverich, Toussaint Mossy, T. R. Hyde, James Ramsay, Thomas Toby, Geo. W. Morgan, Saml. W. Oakey, Samuel C. Bell, W. M'F. Saul, cashier. Capital \$500,000.

There were four local fire and marine companies with \$1,200,000 capital, also two foreign insurance companies doing business. Roffignac was still mayor, and A. Dupuy, postmaster. Number of sugar plantations in the State in 1827; 607. Production of sugar; 88,378 hhds. of 1,000 lbs. 2,000 hhds. of molasses.

Since merchants had their banks, planters now, 1827, proposed to have one; to form a banking association on the new plan of securing by their lands and even their slaves, their subscriptions to stock, which at first was \$2,000,000 was increased to \$2,500,000. Many planters advanced nothing, got this stock and paper notes, living at once verged on extravagance, importations increased beyond the real wants of the country. The high living for the next ten years was later given as another cause of the financial panic in 1837.

The Consolidated Association of the Planters of Louisiana was the ponderous title of this new bank, Manuel Andry was the first president, and T. L. Prevost, cashier.

1830.

Beverly Chew had succeeded J. A. Fort as president of the U. S. Branch Bank. Samuel B. Slocumb, Henry Perret and Archibald Taylor had been added to the directorate, and they with Maunsell White and nine others mentioned before, completed the list for 1830. The Louisiana State Bank had elected E. Duchamp, president, and had added George Legendre and D. F. Burthe to their board of directors.

The Bank of Louisiana with Benjamin Story, president, and the Bank of Orleans, were doing a good business.

Maunsell White was made Colonel of Second Regiment Louisiana State Militia.

The population of New Orleans was this year 52,455, the death rate was 147 per thousand. New Orleans was now assuming great importance as a reliable banking center,

and bank note currency with the New Orleans date line circulated from the Alleghanies to the Mexican border.

In 1830 the population of Louisiana amounted to 215,275, a forty per cent increase in ten years, New Orleans nearly doubling itself in this decade despite the abnormal mortality; ten times as great as to-day!

The Pontchartrain Railroad was incorporated this year, it being the second railroad to organize, and the third to be built, in the United States.

1831.

In 1831 charters were granted to the Canal Bank, the City Bank and to the Railroad Company of West Feliciana.

The New Orleans Canal and Banking Company was the first improvement bank chartered.

The ideas of Colonel White and his friend Beverly Chew were now concentered; a copy of the charter was published by order of the commissioners, bearing the imprint of Benj. Levy, Bookseller and Stationer, Chartres St., 1831. It lies before me, and excerpts may be of interest.

CANAL BANK CHARTER.

Section 1 of this incorporation charter calls for a capital of 4 millions in shares of one hundred dollars each, and declares the purpose: "Constructing a canal from some part of the city or suburbs of New Orleans, above Poydras street to the Lake Pontchartrain."

Section 2. Provides for seven commissioners who will take an account of subscriptions.

Section 3. Provides for payments of stock subscriptions in amounts, ten dollars per share down, Dec. 1st, \$15; Feb., \$25; April \$25; and June \$25.

Section 4. Provides name *N. O. Canal and Banking Co.*

Time of existence of charter to December 31, 1870, and allows privileges of banking and for a Seal.

Section 5. For election of thirteen directors as a Board.

Section 6. Annual election thereof.

Section 7. Powers of directors to appoint officers, etc.

Section 8. That the Company shall construct a canal 60 feet in width to float vessels drawing six feet of water, with one or more basins; shall commence within one year and complete within three years to six.

Section 9. Provides for acquirement of lands on right of way by purchase.

Section 10. Allows the use of adjacent lands for construction purposes.

Section 11. Schedule of tolls.

Section 12. Powers of collector.

Section 13. Penalty for injury to work.

Section 14. Construction of levee on upper side to prevent possible river overflow from above, and to build a paved road twenty-five feet wide along the entire length of canal, and provides tolls for use.

Section 15. Fundamental articles of the rules and constitution.

Section 16. Keeping of books of minutes.

Section 17. Debts not to exceed capital paid in.

Section 18. Limits loans on stock to 30 per cent.

Section 19. Paper notes to be of no less denomination than \$5.00, bearing interest of 12 per cent on refusal of payment.

Section 20. Suspension of payment to forfeit charter after 90 days have elapsed.

Section 21. No dividend to be paid during any suspension or refusal of payment.

Section 22. Rights of company unaffected by change of title to property mortgaged.

Section 23. Wife may bind herself *in solido* with husband.

Sections 24, 25 and 26. Rights of company, etc.

Section 27. Required to lend to the State at 6% up to \$600,000.

Section 28. Refers to 7th and 8th act.

Section 29. Enables four branch banks to be established. One branch at St. Francisville, \$200,000; at Alexandria, \$400,000 capital; at Franklin, \$250,000 capital, and at Donaldsonville, \$250,000 capital.

Section 30. With five directors for each branch.

Section 31. Cashier for each.

Section 32. Can use two-thirds of capital for discount purposes.

Sections 33, 34 and 35. Rules on loans.

Section 36. Company to keep in repair bridges.

Section 37. Duty of Mayor of New Orleans to repair any bridge after 24 hours at expense of corporation.

This act of incorporation is signed:

A Mouton, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Isaac A. Smith, President of Senate.

Approved, March 5th, 1831, A. B. Roman, Governor of the State of Louisiana.

On last page is a table showing how stockholders may vote, no vote being greater than 100 shares, regardless of holding.

Commissioners appointed by Governor and Senate to carry out Charter: Maunsell White, Beverly Chew, Archibald R. Taylor, Samuel Livermore, D. F. Burthe, Charles Genois.

1832.

"The Canal Bank," as it was at once known colloquially, set about to do the business at hand, despite the fact that the summer of 1832 proved the most trying of any New Orleans had suffered from a health point of view in its previous history. This year both cholera and yellow fever appeared in epidemic, the mortality was 8099 out of a total population of a little more than fifty thousand; nearly *one in every six died!* Today, with above 375,000 population, not that many die during the whole year—the white mortality of July, 1914, being less than one and a half to

each one hundred. (13.4 per thousand. See Board of Health Report 1914).

This great mortality in the summer of 1832 played sad havoc with the organization of working forces to dig the new canal. All work had to be done with the spade. Negro labor was at the time employed with the growing crops, and the contractors had, therefore, to arrange with immigration agents to supply Irishmen and Germans who were coming to America in great numbers, many coming in English cotton ships directly to New Orleans. These men were put on at good wages and did excellent work during the early summer. It is estimated that many thousands were victims of the fever and the bowel troubles that prevailed, in fact, the French experience at Panama was foreshadowed in this terrific slaughter of aliens, in whose demonstration of the survival of the fittest, there was left a parent stock in our growing city that has given to it just before the Civil War, a reputation for vigor and enterprise not equalled in all the world.

The first contractors were Ives, Brown and Company, who did the work from Metairie to the Lake shore. O'Brien and Brocken, constructed the wharf work, and Simon Cameron, later Senator from Pennsylvania, and in Lincoln's Cabinet, was put in charge of the general construction. 185,000 cubic yards, about one-fourth of the total, were removed this first year despite obstacles in the starting of the organization.

The Canal construction went forward rapidly, and seven years later there was handed over to the State a three-fold return for the chartered right bestowed in 1831.

THE NEW BASIN CANAL.

Besides an excellent canal, the finest driveway in New Orleans for years after was the shellroad along the bank to "New Lake End." On the upper bank was a new protecting levee stretching back to the lake, fit to stop any overflow from any crevasse about the city. Norman's

"New Orleans and Environs" describes in 1844: "The Shell Road of the Canal and Banking Company affords an agreeable ride to Lake Pontchartrain, a distance of six miles. The highway runs on the margin of the Canal, and is not excelled by any road in the United States. It is the great resort for every species of pleasure vehicle that the city furnishes; and here may be seen, on an afternoon, all grades of society, from the gay sportsman mounted on his fast trotter, to the sober citizen who sets forth on his ambling pony, all of whom appear to realize an equal share of enjoyment. A line of comfortably arranged barges also ply on the canal from the lake at regular hours. A convenient and very good hotel is established. Half-way on this road, between the city and the lake, is the highly celebrated Metairie race track."

"2.40 on the shell road" was an expression that then carried the highest praise for both horse and road, and this stretch along the canal enabled the expression to come into vogue.

Canal and Banking Company were eventually separated—the State has its canal and the business community its Banking Company—the only one to survive the shocks that buffeted business since the first year of the decade 1830-1840.

The Canal Bank's statement dated June 25, 1832, shows capital stock, paid in, \$3,870,200. Profits less expenses, \$405,563. Dividends, 3%, \$115,924.50. Sinking fund, \$100,000. Net surplus, \$189,638.74. Cash, specie, \$252,022.58. Notes of the city banks, \$114,725. Notes in circulation, \$643,900. Individual deposits, \$315,035.84. Total resources, \$5,333,840.36. Signed, N. N. Wilkinson, cashier. Canal construction expenses to this time, \$153,137. Charged to date against building site and bank building, \$45,187.

The Canal Bank this year signed a contract with John Reynolds and J. M. Zacharie, architects, for the erection of a banking office building. The site purchased was the

north-west corner of Gravier and Magazine. Notwithstanding the disadvantage with which the architects had to contend, on account of the angle of the street being obtuse, there was erected a neat stuccoed structure of the Grecian Doric style at a cost of \$65,000.

JESUITS PLANTATION.

The site of the first Canal Bank is historic. It was approximately the exact spot upon which the Jesuits nearly a century before had built their first chapel and school. All the ground from Common to Felicity was owned by them until 1769, under a French grant, and on this plantation was experimentally grown the first sugar cane in Louisiana, the stock being brought from the West Indies by the Jesuit Fathers in 1754.

Sugar planters at this time were the most prosperous class in the State, there being seven hundred plantations with capital of forty millions. Louisiana furnished half of the sugar of the United States.

Sugar planters had two banks, the Planters and Union. They now proposed a third, the Citizens, with \$12,000,000 capital.

In 1832, another banking establishment was incorporated under the name of the Union Bank, with a capital of \$8,000,000! This to be based on landed property like that of the Planters' Association, and to be guaranteed by the State.

5,000 people, mostly blacks, died this year with cholera in New Orleans, yellow fever at the time being epidemic among the whites.

Geo. B. Ogden was President of the New Orleans Canal and Banking Company in its early history, and Beverly Chew, the cashier. Maunsell White, H. F. Kenner, J. W. Behn, J. L. Bogert, S. H. Buckner, A. H. Wallace, Edward Ogden, Alexander Kirkman, Wm. M. Beal, James Currell, J. W. Justamond, Wm. Clark, Jr., S. M.

Read, were the Board of Directors. Wednesdays and Saturdays were discount days. The other banks in 1833-34 were: Gas Light and Banking Company, of which James H. Caldwell was the leading spirit; Citizen's Bank, E. J. Forstall, president; Bernard Marigny and others, directors.

Louisiana State Bank, M. S. Cucullu, president. James W. Zacharie, Edmond Soniat, C. Toledano and others, directors. Bank of Louisiana, Benjamin Story, president. W. A. Gasquet, H. Henderson, J. D. Denegre and others, directors.

Mechanics and Traders Bank, James Hopkins, president. Nicholas Sinnott, George Morgan, George Buchanan, A. Miltenberger and others, directors.

Union Bank of Louisiana, Glendy Burke, president; George Legendre, J. H. Leverich, J. P. Freret and others, directors.

Carrollton Bank, D. F. Burthe, president; L. Millaudon, H. C. Cammack, J. Chalaron and others, directors.

Bank of Orleans, Andrew Hodge, president; with Hyde, Ker, Cenas and others, directors.

Commercial Bank of New Orleans, Wm. G. Hewes, president; Robert Layton, Maunsell White, Abigah Fisk and others, directors.

Atchafalaya Banking Company, Joshua Baldwin, president.

City Bank of New Orleans, S. J. Peters, president. R. J. Palfrey, cashier.

Merchants Bank, John Minturn, president; Stephen Henderson, Samuel Thompson, J. W. Breedlove, and others, directors.

Consolidated Association of the Planters of Louisiana, H. Lavergne, president; G. Villere, W. C. C. Claiborne, Sosthene Roman, Geo. Pollock, Felix Forstall, Valerie Alain, et als., directors.

Exchange and Banking Company, E. York, president; L. Matthews, Peter DeBuys, W. Christy, et als., directors.

New Orleans Improvement and Banking Company.

Pierre Soule, president; Pitot, Buisson, Coujot, Ducros and J. F. Canonge, directors.

The Railroad Companies who did no banking, were: The New Orleans and Nashville, and the Pontchartrain. In addition there were the Barataria and Lafourche Canal Company and the Amite Navigation Company, the New Orleans Draining Company, the New Orleans Steam Cotton Press Company, the Exchange Company, the Levee Steam Cotton Press Company.

There were eleven local insurance companies doing business in New Orleans this year.

1833.

Federal Government dealt the first blow to agriculture in Louisiana in the year 1833. A new tariff was enacted, providing for a gradual reduction of duties on foreign goods to 20%, taking off every two years one-tenth of all there was above that, as fixed by the former tariff. This minimum was reached on the first of July, 1842. The effect of this change would be to diminish the price of foreign sugars, and consequently, that of the domestic article.

The first few years but little alteration took place, and the sugar trade was in a highly flourishing condition.

On the strength of the tariff of 1816, fixing the duty upon imported sugars at three cents, the culture had been greatly extended and the crop had increased in 1828, from fifteen thousand hogsheads to forty-five thousand.

At that time, there were more than three hundred sugar plantations, with a capital of thirty-four million dollars, twenty-one thousand men, twelve thousand head of working cattle, and steam engines equal to 1650 horse power, being employed in this branch of industry; and from this time to 1831, nearly four hundred new establishments were formed, with a capital of \$6,000,000, making the whole number of plantations no less than seven hundred, with a capital of \$40,000,000.

Half of all the sugar consumed in the United States came

from Louisiana! And it bade fair to supply the rest. The sugar planters were the most prosperous class of society; they had two banks which liberally supplied them with funds, and a third called the Citizens, with a capital of \$12,000,000, was now started, (1833). The plan of this institution, as set forth, was to advance to any planter, on a mortgage of his lands, slaves, and cattle, one-half of the estimated value in specie, at 6%, for twenty years, he being obliged to pay back every year one-twentieth of the sum loaned.

The abundance of paper money gave rise, also, to speculating companies. In short, there were chartered in 1833 corporate institutions with an aggregate capital amounting to the enormous sum of \$18,984,000! Never had the Legislature been so liberal.

Because of this stock jobbing system, real estate was inflated to an exorbitant nominal value. During 1832, land which could have been bought the year before for fifty thousand dollars, sold for ten times that sum.

CARROLLTON.

The Canal and Banking Company paid before this boom \$130,000 for an undivided half interest in the McCarty plantation, which included all of Carrollton from the Foucher tract to protection levee, down to the new canal, selling off the slaves and improvements so that the net cost was \$85,000. Later this property was sold in town lots and netted an enormous profit to the Canal Bank Company who had laid off Carrollton, naming the town for General Carroll of Kentucky, who fought to defend New Orleans in 1815.

The purchasers of these lots began to realize great profits by re-selling; they arose to twice, ten times, even a hundred times their actual value—most of the lots were in the swamp and covered with water, but it made no difference. It was the map distances of five miles from Canal street that determined their selling quality, and there was but a limited extent of ground for the growth of a greater

New Orleans, which the people of 1833 fully expected to double its population every ten years, or to reach 1,000,000 in forty years!

Money difficulties shortly followed this boom, 15, 18 and 24 per cent was demanded on good paper, bankruptcies, though as yet at long intervals, became more frequent, and among the principal merchants. To remedy this, a cry went out to the Legislature for more banks. The State was conservative, however, and none were granted in 1833, though the way was preparing for more at an early date.

In 1834 the State chartered institutions with aggregate capital of \$1,620,000.

1835.

Quoting Bunner's History of Louisiana printed in 1841, "The effervescence of the people of Paris, excited by the Mississippi lands in the time of Law, had never been more violent than the mania for speculation which seized all minds and turned all heads in New Orleans in the year 1835."

"It really seemed as if these lands had the power at intervals of crazing all who meddled with them. A state of affairs now existed in Louisiana of the most extraordinary character. An enormous value was placed upon lands entirely covered with water; towns were laid out in the midst of cypress swamps; prairies were set on fire; and speculators were ready to snatch at every islet. Some few, shrewder than the rest, or more favored by fortune, succeeded in amassing riches, but a far greater number were irretrievably ruined.

"The General Assembly of this year and the last, followed in the steps of the most reckless of its predecessors, and even showed still greater facility in granting bank charters. It really seemed possessed by what Jefferson called the *bancomania*. In the course of two years it chartered no less than seven new banks, and pledged the credit of the State in favor of the Citizens' Bank; an overgrown

institution, (\$12,000,000 capital), chartered in 1833, which paid its cashier \$10,000 a year, and which attempting to negotiate a loan in Europe of twelve millions, failed for want of satisfactory security.

"The banks chartered at the first session of this Legislature were as follows: The Bank of Atchafalaya, railroad, capital two millions; the Bank of Carrollton, railroad, capital three millions; the Exchange Bank, (St. Charles Hotel), capital two millions; the Gas Bank, capital six millions; and at its second session; the Merchants Bank, capital one million; Company of Improvements, two millions, to carry on banking; granting also to the Pontchartrain Railroad Company an additional one million to its capital to do banking.

"The aggregate capital of the institutions incorporated by the Legislature in 1835 was \$18,750,000; and those incorporated in 1836; \$29,595,000, making a grand total of \$39,345,000."

Six railroad charters and two for the building of theaters were among the 1836 output.

Bunner says again: "To make the existing state of things in the end still worse, the banks were profuse in their discounts, and did not scruple to issue paper to five times the amount of their available funds.

1837.

"At length, on the 13th of May, 1837, the disaster which had been so long preparing for Louisiana, fell upon her. Fourteen of the banks of New Orleans suspended specie payments.

"In this emergency, and to afford temporary relief to the community, the municipalities issued bills from the value of one shilling to four dollars; and in a short time companies and even individuals claimed the same privilege, so that the State was soon inundated with rag money."

The new tariff had at this time reduced the price of sugar to the point where the planter abandoned its culture; cane

was destroyed, and cotton planted in its place. Nearly two hundred sugar planters gave up entirely, and in cotton raising alone was the hope of the people for the restoration of prosperity.

The Louisiana cotton crop in 1834 had been 150,000 bales. In 1836 it was increased to 225,000 bales, large profits in other directions prompted purchasing by speculators, and the price went to twenty cents the pound, a price entirely unwarranted by the state of European markets, which resulted in numerous bankruptcies, some for immense amounts. Lands could no longer be sold; plans of towns were of no value but to be gazed on as pictures, and the fortunes based on them fell more suddenly than they had risen. Usurers were the only class that now prospered, and they proceeded to reap a rich harvest from the calamities of others.

The crisis of financial affairs in 1837 brought about conservatism in legislation. When the Assembly met in 1838, there was less liberality manifested in granting new charters, still new corporate capital was authorized to the extent of \$2,725,000—too much for the times, as public confidence and private credit were practically destroyed.

It was proposed that the banks be authorized to issue post-notes, payable in 1840. This failed in the Lower House of the Legislature. The directors of all the banks consulted together, and came to the conclusion that they would issue post-notes to cover the period during suspension of specie payments—notes to be issued in proportion to circulation of each bank.

The Gas Company had now laid their pipes through the old town, and were at work completing the connections to Poydras street and above.

Exports in 1837 were \$35,338,697. Imports \$14,020,012. Mortality 4,838 in a total population of 70,000.

There were three municipalities at this time making up the City of New Orleans—each with its Government: the

old city, the "Vieux Carre," Mariny's Faubourg, and the Faubourg St. Mary, extending now to Felicity Road.

In 1836 banks were profuse in discounts, paper issued to five times the amount of their available funds. On May 13, 1837, as has been said, came the crash, when fourteen of the sixteen existing banks suspended payment.

Most of these banks continued doing a modified business, but only by the issuance of post-notes payable after 1840. Two survive to this day—the Canal and the Citizens.

1838.

The Canal Bank turned over to the State the completed New Basin Canal, cost \$1,119,000. In 1838, according to Gibson's Directory, there were eighteen banks, with a total capital of \$56,000,000. Many of them engaged besides in building railroads, canals, hotels, gas-works, water-works, etc. Maunsell White was prominent in the Waterworks Company, which began their piping this year.

The New Orleans Canal and Banking Company had made few changes in its personnel: Geo. B. Ogden, commission merchant, No. 44 Poydras street, was the president; Beverly Chew, cashier; James B. Bohn, E. W. Lamayer, Wm. M. Beal, S. Franklin, Elihu Woodruff, directors.

Branches were now flourishing in Alexandria, \$400,000-capital, A. R. Chew, cashier; Franklin, \$400,000, W. T. Palfrey, cashier; St. Francisville, \$250,000, R. Mumford, cashier; Donaldsonville, \$250,000, N. Augustin, cashier.

The bank this year states that its capital is full paid, and that it is conducting its business at Gravier and Magazine in its own building.

The service in the bank is performed by C. L. Ducatel, paying teller; C. W. Cammack, receiving teller; R. M. Bines, general bookkeeper; H. J. Buddington and Thomas Laidlaw, first and second individual bookkeepers; John W. Watson, discount clerk; H. H. Pinto, runner and assistant clerk; Zabdiel Boyston, porter. Discount days.

Wednesdays and Saturdays. Offering days, Tuesdays and Fridays.

The New Orleans Savings Bank, really then a branch of the Canal, was this year opened at No. 55 Camp street, with Beverly Chew president, and Jos. A. Maybin first Vice-President.

Gibson has this to say in 1838: "New Orleans has been rated as the third city of the Union; but she is in reality the third only in population, and *second* in a commercial point of view. Her imports are exceeded now only by New York and Boston, and her exports are nearly triple any port of the United States, except New York, which New Orleans exceeds one-third."

WONDERFUL PROGRESS PERIOD.

"New Orleans is yet in her infancy, and has had to contend with many obstacles that have retarded her astonishing growth. When New Orleans was ceded to the Americans, 1803, it had scarcely 8,000 people. In 1835, the United States Census reported 70,000 resident population, and the transient from forty to fifty thousand.

"Since this period it has increased in size, population and wealth most astonishingly, and proportionately more than any other city in the world. Its present population is no less than 90,000, and as the depot of the great valley, she is inevitably destined to be, as this vast and fertile region becomes densely populated, not only the first city of the Union, but the most populous and richest in the world."

This directory, with 384 pages, contains much information; it has many wood-cuts of the prominent buildings of the day with descriptions.

There were four theaters, six churches, a sugar refinery with \$500,000 capital, four markets, including Poydras and St. Mary's. Two arcades, one with baths in twenty-four rooms, the other, "Banks," is still standing as the Board of Trade building.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE.

The Merchants' Exchange running through from Royal to Exchange Place, served the purposes then of club, exchange, post office and auction room for slaves and real estate. Here were piles of newspapers, and the world's news was discussed at tables, upon sanded floor, and here was the home of the Roffignac, as well as the birthplace of the cocktail. Today it carries on a part of its original service, spiritual comfort still being dispensed at possibly the oldest laboratory for the rejuvenation of the tired business man, that is still left in the South.

Two great hotels, the St. Charles, the largest then in America, and the St. Louis, with three other first-class smaller places, and more than twenty-five good restaurants, besides lodgings of all kinds, took good care of the forty odd thousand transients who came hither each year to spend the winter.

There was a period of great activity and interest, in fact, during the decade 1830-1840, New Orleans was the point at which money could be made with more rapidity than anywhere else in the United States. Commission merchants made thousands, where they had to be satisfied with hundreds after the Civil War.

There was then a live Chamber of Commerce, S. J. Peters, president. There were five morning papers and one evening, besides the *Commercial Bulletin*, the *New Orleans Price Current*, and two other journals.

Eight packet lines serving trade to New York, Boston, Charleston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Texas, had daily sailings. There were fourteen Volunteer Fire Companies, and a hook and ladder organization. Altogether, New Orleans was, at this time, as well equipped a little city as any in the United States.

1840.

In 1840 Maunsell White & Co. had moved to No. 102 Gravier, near Magazine. Exports had reached \$34,236,936.

Imports \$12,864,942. The mortality had averaged for several years about 4,400 annually, in a population of about 100,000—44 per 1,000.

1841.

All banks this year suspended specie payment, although there had been a general resumption with all charter rights restored previous. This condition lasted but a brief few months. Crops were good and banking conditions in the latter part of 1841 and 1842 improved very much. The Canal bank notes circulated throughout the South, suffering little discount and at but a few points.

The banks having resumed specie payment, the General Assembly reinstated them in their chartered rights; it also endorsed the idea of a United States National Bank to regulate the issue of currency and to maintain a stability in its value. It was not until 1863 that this idea was carried out.

The exports at this time, 1840-41, of New Orleans, exceeded those of New York. 2,000 sailing vessels and 1,600 steamboats arrived in the port this year. There were sixteen banks doing business. Population of the State, 350,000.

1842.

The chief matter considered by the Legislature in 1842 was remedial laws looking towards the control of banks; prohibiting them from violating their charters, and providing for the liquidation of such as were insolvent.

Two were paying specie—the Canal Bank and the Citizens. During the year seven went by the board, leaving only nine in sound financial condition, with a reserve of \$4,565,925 against a trivial circulation of \$1,261,514.

So severe had been the lesson, that even with this strength, the banks would not venture the usual aid to commerce. There was a general scheme of financial retrenchment from now on.

In "Pitts and Clarke's Directory" of New Orleans, 1842, ten banks are apparently doing business still, despite the panic of 1841: The Union, capital \$7,000,000, C. Adams, president; The Consolidated, Royal and Toulouse, capital \$2,398,000, Hugue Lavergne, president; City Bank, 13 Camp St., S. J. Peters, president, capital \$2,000,000; Carrollton, Canal near St. Charles, G. C. Duncan, president, capital \$3,000,000; Bank of Orleans, Canal corner Exchange Place, capital \$500,000; Gas Bank, capital \$6,000,000, St. Charles street opposite the Verandah; New Orleans Canal and Banking, with Geo. A. Prevost, Wm. M. Goodrich, James T. Kelly and Glendy Burke added to the Board of Directors; Bank of Louisiana, Benjamin Story, president, capital \$4,000,000; Improvement Bank, \$2,000,000 capital, J. M. Ducros, president; Citizens' Bank, Toulouse between Royal and Chartres, capital \$7,088,000 "paid," W. C. C. Claiborne, president; Louisiana State Bank, Conti and Royal, capital \$2,000,000, J. B. Vignie, president; The Commercial, the Merchants, the Exchange and the Mechanics and Traders.

Bank statement of the Canal Bank of Nov. 4th, 1841, shows circulation \$564,765; less local bank notes, \$247,125; and due to banks, \$6,005—\$241,120, \$323,645. Specie, \$114,156. New circulation of stamped notes and others, double the amount, \$228,312. "Porte feuille," \$3,703,282—amount to be paid in cash \$370,328.

In all the banks there were \$2,931,892 in specie and \$5,853,784 circulation. The Canal Bank ranked with three others, Bank of Louisiana, Citizens and Union in resources, and in the credit of its outstanding notes. The ten other banks reporting, about equalled these four.

GLENDY BURKE.

Probably the greatest crisis that the Canal Bank has met in its history, was during the panic of 1841. Every bank in the city had to suspend specie payment; this was done by mutual consent. Mr. Glendy Burke had been made a

director of the Canal Bank. That year the dissolution of the bank became a matter of discussion, when the new Board of Directors had been elected. Mr. Burke himself, in a pamphlet, tells the story:

"Upon taking possession of the bank, an examination showed the deposits to be extremely small, with eighteen thousand dollars in the vault to meet a circulation of more than \$60,000, as appeared from the books.

"Scarcely had the new Board organized, before a clamorous crowd of hungry note holders were besieging the doors, demanding specie. After a protracted session, the then President, (Mr. Ogden), felt himself justified in declaring that there was nothing to be done, except to 'let the institution go.' Everything was dismay and confusion. The hour for opening the bank had passed; there was no helping hand, and the *first unpaid five dollar note* would, under the law, bring with it the forfeiture of the charter.

"The *then* President, seeing no hope of assistance, and justified by the concurrence of a majority of the Board, proposed to resign his post. Believing fully in the eventual solvency of the bank, and desiring to have its integrity remain unimpeached, I volunteered to interpose my personal means and resources between the bank and ruin.

"My offers were accepted. Withdrawing from other banks a sum necessary for the purpose, which was standing to the credit of my house, I returned with their notes to the bank of which I had so recently become a director. Not having time to obtain the specie, I exchanged these notes for those presented at the counter, until the run was stopped, everybody satisfied and order restored.

"The interests of the stockholders, and the gratification of a natural feeling of pride for the character of the institution with which I was connected, formed the sole inducement, as they did the only compensation, for the responsibility I thus incurred."

There followed an administration of the Canal Bank's affairs by Mr. Glendy Burke as president of eight years,

1841-49, the stock had fallen to ten cents on the dollar, this, by his care, was brought back to par, and another chapter of integrity was written to endear this institution to the people.

Banks in those days were not fortified as they are today by the careful mutual helpfulness of a Clearing House, and the national treasury took little interest in preserving State banks.

Integrity was largely a matter of good personnel on the directory board. The conduct of employees even had effect. The German porter of the Canal Bank stood so well that a story is told of his single assurance given to friends—that the bank was all right—dissipating a gathering at the time of the Atchafalaya Riot.

The period following the reorganization of the Board by Glendy Burke, the Canal Bank did an extremely conservative business. Beverly Chew had immediate charge of the banking office, and the Board took on two new men, J. J. Hanna and A. S. Addison. A few months later Col. Chew retired, and Samuel C. Bell was made cashier.

1845.

In 1845 the Bank's quarters being partially destroyed by fire, Dakin the architect, was commissioned to erect an office building on the corner diagonally opposite; this structure stands today.

Norman in 1845 says: "The Canal Bank has its entrance in the center of the front on Magazine street, of a substantial granite building, which stands on that and the corner of Gravier street. That portion of the edifice is very tastefully arranged after the designs of Dakin. It was erected in 1845. The residue of the structure is used for stores. Capital \$4,000,000."

Norman also speaks of the fine collection of paintings owned by Glendy Burke, saying, "a rare picture by Wilkie, the only one of that artist's in America, is in the splendid collection of Mr. Burke."

In the year 1845, there had been a final disposal of the relations between the State and the banks. After an adjustment of mutual obligations, there was a renunciation by the State of all interference in bank management. This brought relief to the extent of \$3,000,000 of State debt, and the banks too, were enabled to extinguish their bonded debt. New Orleans retired her depreciated "promises to pay."

Public credit was restored, and a sound currency was in circulation before the year closed. The recuperative power of our people was much appreciated by the great Southwest from this time on, and although there were fewer banks during the next several years, they were stronger.

Total deposits, all banks, in New Orleans Jan. 1st, 1846, \$7,202,450. Circulation \$4,760,060.

To facilitate the disappearance of the many improvement banks which had outlived their improvement use, and which were still clogging the banking machinery of commerce, liquidators were appointed in 1847 by the State to wind up the Exchange Bank, the Atchafalaya, the Merchants, the Bank of Orleans, the New Orleans Improvement and Banking Company, and several shattered railroad companies.

New Orleans had been the basis of supplies during the Mexican war just closed, and much added business had been done by merchants.

1849.

When Glendy Burke retired in 1849, R. W. Montgomery, capitalist, who lived at Burgundy and Canal, and who made his fortune in hardware with Richards and Montgomery, No. 13 Chartres, was elected president. The commodious building, with columns, at Natchez and Magazine, was erected to accommodate a rapidly increasing business, and another ten-year period of still greater success was entered into.

The new Board, with Mr. Montgomery as President, and S. C. Bell, cashier, who resided over the bank, were: Juan Y. de Egana, M. O. H. Norton, C. R. Marshall, I. H. Stauffer, R. C. Cammack and J. J. Robson.

The Sauve crevasse occurred in 1849. The city was overflowed for six months from the lake to Baronne street.

Maunsell White had now retired to Deer Range, his country place below the city.

1850.

The exports in 1850 were \$38,105,350; imports \$10,760,599. During this year there was a great Railroad Convention meeting presided over by Maunsell White. Glendy Burke offered resolutions which eventuated in the construction of the Opelousas Railroad, today a section of the Southern Pacific system.

Official population of New Orleans this year, 130,000. There were five banks only left in New Orleans, but their capital aggregated \$12,000,000.

The Mechanics and Traders Bank and the City Bank were authorized to go into liquidation this year.

The limits of New Orleans were extended to Felicity Road, and the three municipalities were reunited into one city; later the same year, the city of Lafayette was incorporated.

The five banks remaining after the panic of 1845, which were doing business, according to Cohen's Directory of 1851, were the Bank of Louisiana, Canal Bank, Louisiana State Bank, Mechanics and Traders and the Citizens; the others were, some of them, still liquidating.

However, many private banking houses began to come into existence to take care of the very large business now doing, and there were local agencies for the Commercial Bank of Texas and the Charleston Bank. The other private banks were: Samuel Nicholson & Co., Horace Bean & Co., Matthews Finley & Co., Gray Macmurdo & Co., J. Robb & Co., John Egerton, Thos. H. Barker and Benoist & Co.

Leonard Matthews was president of the Chamber of Commerce.

TELEGRAPH ESTABLISHED.

Morse's Line, Washington and New Orleans Telegraph Company, opened offices this year on the site of Dr. Clapp's Church alongside the St. Charles Hotel, where the Western Union is today.

They advertise in a tariff, 1850, to send first ten words to Washington, \$2.00, with ten cents apiece for additional words. To New York, \$2.40, St. Louis \$3.15. The highest price being to Halifax, \$4.50 and 25c a word extra. The lowest, Mobile, 50c and 3c. Some 350 stations are named, and the injunction printed: "If you receive a dispatch, requiring a reply, answer it at once, that the Telegraph Company may not, in addition to its own sins, have yours to answer for. Samuel H. Kennedy, Chief Operator, New Orleans."

A. D. Crossman had just been elected Mayor of New Orleans; his platform and first message were on sanitation. He proclaimed a year later that now, his administration having cut down the cypress forest which had prevented the free circulation of air between the City and Lake Pontchartrain, there need be no longer a fear of yellow fever.

1852.

"Man proposes and God disposes." The year following, the greatest visitation of that pestilence that had ever happened to the city occurred. People did not know then about the mosquito; the humidity of the swamp was thought to be the cause of the epidemic, and it was in a way as a breeding ground for the mosquito.

There were nine daily newspapers: The Bee, Bulletin, Crescent, Delta, Orleanian, Picayune, True Delta, German Gazette, Lafayette Zeitung.

The Lake end of the New Canal was then known as Port Hickok—named for the man who kept a fine dining place

at the terminus of the Shell Road. Lafayette City and Carrollton were separate municipalities with street cars at one hour intervals.

Dr. Bennet Dowler in a "Tableaux of New Orleans," printed in 1852, speaks of the "manifest destiny" of New Orleans. He says: "Manufacture, shipbuilding and the like, will make the city what it should be, the mistress of the two Americas. The present generation seems to think production, and not manufacturing, is the work of the South. A later people will use the raw material so abundantly laid at our wharves and make it into a tenfold blessing as finished goods."

It has been said that Paris is France; but it cannot be said that New Orleans is Louisiana. The rural and the city populations are comparatively strangers to each other. The material interests of these classes are not completely identical—are not founded on mutual productions, mutual exchanges, or mutual profits.

"To the planter, the city is a great storehouse for him, its inhabitants are but factors, agents, commission merchants bankers; he does not receive for his cotton bales, New Orleans fabrics made of the same. The goods that he chief profits go to the latter, that is, out of the city."

While Dr. Dowler scolds, he also appreciates the "destiny of New Orleans to surpass all Southern cities, as indicated by climate, position and natural advantage. Arts, trades and manufacturers must finally stand side by side with commerce."

This is a wonderful "tableaux" by Dowler and could not be equalled today by the most optimistic promoter in New Orleans. Thirty-nine pages in the directory of 1852 and every line a boost!

In 1850 occurred the Bonnet Carre crevasse, the mortality this year was 9,862.

1853.

Yellow fever year, appalling epidemic, some 15,000 peo-

ple died this year, "notwithstanding," says Gayarre, "the State was otherwise prosperous, engaged in constructing railroads and carrying on works of internal improvement."

1857.

The editor of the *Price Current* writes of New Orleans at this time: "The great financial crisis of 1857 will never be forgotten. In the midst of health, wealth and abundance, with the agricultural products of the Southwest commanding the highest prices; without intestine troubles; with overflowing granaries throughout the country with which we are connected; without over-trading, over-banking; without extravagance in our living and in our personal habits; with our crops all coming to market and paid for; in fine, for no other causes but a financial contagion, fear, and the loss of confidence, (that life of a commercial community), a panic came, did its worst and passed off, leaving us as a memento the *impregnability* of our banking system, the soundness of our community, and exhibiting to the commercial world the inflexibility, the solvency and punctuality of our merchants."

1858.

The opening of 1853 showed New Orleans banks unusually sound and conditions promising. Money was comparatively easy, and the combined bank statement showed:

Circulation	\$ 8,365,378
Deposits	9,991,420
Specie	6,223,269
Due distant banks	559,221
Exchange	2,086,340
Short and long loans.....	24,403,000

The Bell and Lebranche Crevasses of 1858 brought great loss to many sugar planters, and made it difficult to adjust credits. There was also a yellow fever epidemic this summer. Business, however, continued good, and banking capi-

tal continued to increase, \$15,207,000 in 1857 to \$17,309,000 in August, 1858. Cotton receipts 1,682,291 bales, the price was from 15 to 16c per lb. The price of a bale of cotton had grown since 1853 from \$38 to \$65. The sugar crop promised well in 1858, but a freeze on the 20th of November cut the crop to 279,697 hhds. The price was around 9c for fair grade. Louisiana was producing about 45 per cent of the sugar consumed in the United States at this time.

Tobacco was a good staple in the New Orleans market before the war. Receipts 1857-58, were 100,834 hhds.

Sales of coffee, 1858, 375,802 bags at 11c. Rice sold in September at 6½c per lb.

Total value of products marketed in New Orleans, 1858, \$167,155,564, an increase of 50 per cent. during five years previous. Of the above, cotton was \$90,000,000, sugar \$18,000,000, tobacco \$14,000,000.

There were nine local insurance companies who paid, three of them, more than 50 per cent. dividends, the others from 15 to 47 per cent.

Seventeen newspapers were published in New Orleans, nine daily. There were twelve bank organizations, and six railroad companies.

1859.

In 1859 the Canal Bank, still at Magazine and Natchez, re-elected Mr. Rathbone, President; A. H. Kernion, Cashier, and the following Board of Directors: J. Y. de Egana, George Jonas, Geo. W. West, G. W. Babcock, M. O. H. Norton and I. H. Stauffer, with C. Jumonville, Paying Teller; Armand Dupre, Receiving Teller; C. Kilshaw, Note Clerk; Jules Sougeron, Discount Clerk; Bookkeepers, L. Guyol, G. Montreuil and P. Arroya; V. Labatut, Runner; J. Staub, Porter; J. Burkhardt, Second Porter.

This year the bank concluded to erect a more spacious building, conveniently located, and purchased the corner property of fifty feet frontage on Camp and ninety feet on Gravier, a part of its present site.

On the 20th of May, 1858, a contract was entered into by the New Orleans Canal and Banking Company with Gallier & Esterbrook, architects and builders, for a three-story building from drawings made by L. E. Reynolds, architect, to be completed by January 1st, 1859, the cost to be forty-five thousand, five hundred dollars.

This was the first attempt in the direction of a fire-proof building in New Orleans, and there were also features in this construction that anticipated the steel frame building of to-day,—arches and anchorages of wrought iron T-shaped, as are the present metal frames of the skyscrapers. The vaults were wonderful in their strength and fireproof features, and although two store fronts of four stories each were demolished for the site, the new three-story building stood fifty-feet in height, slightly taller and much more dignified in appearance than any building then above Canal Street on Camp.

In 1859 the City of New Orleans had grown to Pleasant Street uptown, and was fairly built as far down as Louisa Street. Beyond these streets there were numerous market gardens. Algiers had begun to assume importance with its machine shops, foundries, and the terminal station of the New Orleans and Opelousas Railroad.

1860.

1860 opened prosperously but closed in gloom. Crops were good, money abundant, and the summer was exceptionally healthy, but on the 21st of December demonstrations were made that showed the fever for war was uncontrollable.

Gardner's directory for 1861 gives a summery of the progress of New Orleans, and when we consider that the impending crisis was to put the community into a Rip Van-winkle sleep for the next twenty years, that war and its after sequence, reconstruction, was to paralyze the machinery of commerce, it is of peculiar interest, and shall form the closing ante-bellum sketch of this story.

AN ANTE-BELLUM RESUME.

"Ninety years before (circa 1770), with 3,000 population," says Gardner, "the principal articles of trade were:

Indigo	\$100,000
Deer skins	80,000
Lumber	50,000
Naval stores	12,000
Rice, peas, tallow, etc.....	8,000

making a value of about a quarter million dollars for one year."

In 1802 Louisiana crops: Cotton, 20,000 bales; 5,000 hhds. of sugar; 3,000 lbs. indigo. Exports: 34,000 bales of cotton, 2,000 hhds. tobacco, 4,000 hhds. of sugar, 800 casks molasses, 50,000 bbls. flour, 3,000 bbls. pork and beef.

The population of 1860 was put down as 178,000, an increase from 17,242 in 1810, or tenfold in fifty years! The State population was in the same proportion—1810, 76,000; 1860, 750,000.

Trade increased from \$3,371,000 in 1805, Domestic and foreign exports to \$108,393,567 in 1860. Products from interior received at Port of New Orleans in 1860, \$185,211,000. The record for 1842-43 was \$53,782,000.

Vessels from sea, 1860, 2,052; average tonnage 590; an increase in tonnage of 80 per cent; 3,566 steamboats arrived. Cotton receipts this year, 2,255,448 bales. There is shown by Gardner a table of increasing exports of cotton beginning in 1822-23, 161,859; 1832-33, 403,833; 1842-43, 1,089,642; 1852-53, 1,664,864.

FLOOD TIDE.

New Orleans had now reached the apex of her prosperity. She was the second export city of the United States, and was also second in banking strength. Her eleven banks had more than twenty million capital, upon which an average dividend of ten per cent. was paid. The largest bank in the city

in 1860 was the Canal. It paid a ten per cent. dividend on \$3,165,000. The next was the Bank of Louisiana, with \$2,-793,000 capital, then the Louisiana State Bank, \$2,000,000.

All Banks.	1860.	1850.
Total deposits	\$20,000,000	\$ 6,792,000
Discounts	30,000,000	15,742,000
Circulation	13,000,000	4,000,000
Specie	12,800,000	4,894,000

The number of banks increased from five to eleven in the ten years, 1850-1860.

Mr. Adolphus Hamilton was added to the Board of the Canal Bank, and the new banking office, Gravier and Camp, was moved into.

1861.

1861. State assessment, \$123,771,000; city assessment, \$120,060,650; total, \$244,831,650.

Just before the lowering cloud of secession had broken New Orleans was supplying all the money for the cultivation and movement of cotton, sugar and other Southern crops; its banks were filled with gold, its trade zone was extensive, and thoroughly habited and well indebted to our commission merchants. All products of the valley funneled through this market, second only to New York in receipts from interior. Then came the knockout of civil strife. The ensuing period of groggy struggle against prejudice, jealousy, and the cruelties of reconstruction; the burden of the free black man, individual property, all combined to stultify and stifle the surviving vitality of a weakened and attenuated people, who had fought to maintain an industrial supremacy which had been gained by long years of hard work and against many obstacles,—to be lost now in a few months of disaster.

The panics of 1832, '37, '41, '46, '48, '54, '57, were in comparison pleasant memories to bankers in New Orleans, who dealt now with a war crisis that consumed the very sources

of supply, and extinguished in a year both crops and commerce. Four years of chaos and darkness ensued.

1862.

The Ordinance of Secession was passed January 26th. The Banks of New Orleans were reputed to be the soundest in the Union at the beginning of the war. Business was active and the State had a surplus in its Treasury. The population of Louisiana by census this year was 666,431. November 26th, 1861, Governor Moore requested the banks to suspend specie payment.

WAR.

On May 1st New Orleans was occupied by Butler's troops, and now nobody felt secure in his property or liberty; martial law prevailed.

Many banks continued a nominal business. The Canal Bank was conspicuous with its fine new three-story building on Camp and Gravier, but the movement of crops had ceased and all business was paralyzed for the time. Banks hibernated, as the smoke of war rested over the city for the four following years.

1866.

At the banking roll call as recorded in the first New Orleans directory after the war, 1865, there answered, in one shape or another: Southern Bank, Thos. Layton, President; Canal Bank, George Jonas, President, Chevalier Jumonville, Cashier; Citizens' Bank, Mechanics' and Traders', Union, City National, ready for business, with Louisiana State, Bank of Louisiana, Consolidated Association and Bank of America liquidating. Five banks left in fair working shape out of twelve of the finest in America at the beginning of the war!

The National Bank law having passed in 1863, there were organized this year the City National, at Magazine and Natchez, old Canal Bank building, with G. W. Cochran, Pres-

ident; N. T. N. Robinson, Cashier; the First National, Thos. P. May, President; the Louisiana National, 120 Common, James Robb, President, Frank Williams, Vice-President. The names of Abraham Luria, Garcia, Bertal and Wagatha appear among the office force at the organization.

There was a new savings bank at 142 Canal Street, and the U. S. Treasury opened a branch at 56 Camp Street. The private banks of Pike, Lapeyre & Brother, Smith, Newman & Co., Glendy Burke & Co., Judson & Co., and C. T. Buddecke furnished the needed facilities of the slowly emerging business of the war-stricken city. Military government made life fairly secure, but the carpet-bagger had squatted into and was fast getting hold of the political machinery with all of its loot possibilities, getting ready to carry out, as they did later, the scriptural injunction, "From him that hath not, that also shall be taken from him."

RECONSTRUCTION.

It was not the intention of this sketch to include information that lives in the experiences of people today. The purpose of this chronicle has been, first, to tell of the Canal Bank, to indicate its environment and the influences that have been its setting, and the orbit of its activities; to illustrate the greatness of this community; to show its resuscitating powers, the resiliency and unbreakableness of its will, and the indomitable courage that has ever animated our people in adversity. Experience hard and bitter such as was needed to bring forth a generation of strong men,—men who wrested from their shoulders the yoke of reconstruction in the seventies and began in the eighties to put New Orleans forward where it properly belongs,—in the fore-rank of commerce.

1870.

1870 showed an increase of 22,000 in the population of New Orleans for the decade 1860-70, despite of war, overflow and epidemic; the population was now 191,418.

1872.

In 1872 when the Clearing House was organized there were twenty banks mentioned as doing business, thirteen of these qualified for membership in the Clearing House Association. The Canal Bank, George Jonas, President; the Louisiana National, J. H. Oglesby, President, and the Germania National being of the number.

The National Bank Law was passed by Congress in 1863. In 1866 four new banks were chartered in New Orleans under that act. Two of these—the Louisiana National and the City National, which was reorganized in 1871 as the Germania National, have to do with the story of the Canal Bank.

The Louisiana from its beginning occupied its own building on Common Street, the upper part being the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. Joseph H. Oglesby was the first President, and Abraham Luria, later Cashier.

The Germania National in 1872 succeeded the City National, and had as President, Louis Schneider, and Hermann Roehl, Cashier. Fred Del Bondio, Jules Cassard, Louis Grunewald, Henry Abraham and H. R. Gogreve were members of its very strong Board of Directors. Their location was 52 Camp street.

1880.

In the early eighties this bank moved to No. 102 (old number) Canal Street. Its capital then was \$300,000 and surplus \$150,000. Mr. J. C. Denis was President in 1891, and the surplus had increased to \$249,000. In 1896 Mr. J. C. Denis was assisted by Henry Abraham as Vice-President, and Mr. F. Dietze was made Cashier. The new number of the bank being No. 620 Canal Street.

The great awakening of New Orleans commercially took place in the early eighties. The first evidence of the National importance of this port was when it was advertised to the world as ready for business, with the *Cotton Centennial Exposition* of 1884-85.

Banking now was on a solid footing, the weakened institutions had all pretty much liquidated, and the number of substantial institutions were now increased to thirteen—the Citizens', Germania National, Germania Savings, Hibernia, Louisiana, State, Metropolitan, Mutual, Canal, New Orleans, Peoples', Union and Whitney. The Canal Bank had elected Mr. Joseph C. Morris president in 1881, with Mr. Edward Toby, Cashier. The Directors were: I. H. Stauffer, E. J. Hart, J. H. Lallande, W. B. Schmidt, A. H. May and Wm. Agar. The capital was \$1,000,000, surplus \$200,000.

Messrs. R. M. Walmsley, Wm. H. Matthews and J. B. Levert went on the Board of the Louisiana National at this time, and W. T. Hardie somewhat later.

1890.

Trade continued to improve, and the city took on a look of activity, with much building and street paving, until in 1890, with the extension of street car lines and the use of electricity, something more nearly approaching a boom began, which continued progressively for another ten years and longer.

1893.

In 1893 there had been added to the Canal Bank a surplus of \$300,000 and in undivided profits, \$72,000. Mr. Newton Buckner and L. M. Finley were put on the Board. In 1894 Mr. Charles Janvier and Mr. W. C. Flower were elected to the directorate. The surplus was now \$400,000 in excess of \$1,000,000 capital, and undivided profits \$150,000.

There was a reorganization in December, 1895, Mr. W. B. Bloomfield coming to the directory that year. Capital \$1,000,000. The simplified name which had always been given the institution "Canal Bank," was now adopted as the brief cognomen in place of "New Orleans Canal and Banking Co."

1894.

In 1894 there was organized by the bankers of New Orleans a Savings, Trust and Safe Deposit Company, known as the Provident Bank, with a subscribed capital of \$300,000. This bank was originally officered by J. C. Morris, President; R. M. Walmsley, Vice-President, and Geo. W. Young, Cashier. The Board of Directors were selected principally from the Canal Bank and the Louisiana National. The purpose of the institution was to give service to small depositors, to maintain a safety vault, and to pay interest on savings. This bank purchased the building alongside the Canal Bank on Camp Street, and soon proved a popular institution. In 1905 it had grown in deposits to more than a million dollars, and was doing a rapidly increasing business. Geo. W. Young was then President, and the three Vice-Presidents were: T. S. Witherspoon, T. P. Thompson and John T. Gibbons.

1903.

In 1903 the capital of the Germania National had been increased to \$700,000, surplus \$350,000, undivided profits \$19,861. Mr. A. Breton was put in charge of the foreign department, Mr. George Clay on the Board. Mr. Albert Breton was made manager in 1904. Surplus and undivided profits, \$417,001.51.

1905.

In 1905 an activity began among banks to consolidate and strengthen; mergers were being made, and for a while it seemed that diplomacy in this direction was likely to bring New Orleans to the position it had previously occupied in the financial world.

The greater Hibernia erected a fine office building and organized a National bank to be its associate. The Whitney was also organized, and a general shaping up for bigger business was taking place along the financial firing line.

Reorganization this year, 1905, of the Germania National into the German-American National Bank of New Orleans, capital \$1,200,000, surplus \$600,000. W. R. Irby was elected President; W. P. Burke, A. Breton, G. W. Clay, Vice-Presidents; F. Dietze Jr., Assistant Cashier; Fritz Jahncke, Hy. Gumbel, S. E. Worms and others Directors.

The German-American Savings Bank, \$500,000 capital, separate department, with its own directorate, had W. P. Burke as President; W. R. Irby, Vice-President; James P. Butler, Jr., came with the bank in 1907 as Trust Officer, and was soon made Vice-President.

The Security Bank and Trust Company, with \$500,000 capital and \$250,000 surplus, was taken over by the German-American in 1906. The German-American steadily gained in public favor and gradually perfected one of the best working organizations in the city.

The Louisiana National Bank that year showed a capital surplus and undivided profits of \$1,146,147. The Canal Bank had a capital of \$1,000,000 and surplus of \$300,000.

A proposition by the Canal Bank to merge with it the Provident Bank was accepted by the stockholders of both companies. Charles Janvier was President, Gilbert Green and Geo. W. Young, Vice-Presidents of the new combined bank. T. S. Witherspoon, T. P. Thompson, John McCloskey and J. B. Levert were added to the Canal Bank Board, which at the time included Wm. Agar, W. B. Bloomfield, W. R. Stauffer, A. Brittin, Samuel Hyman and H. M. Preston.

CANAL-LOUISIANA.

On July 14th, 1905, there was announced the important merger of the Canal and the Louisiana Banks, with \$2,000,000 capital and \$500,000 surplus. The new Board, besides the Canal Bank Directors already mentioned, included from the Louisiana National, Charles Janvier, W. H. Matthews, R. M. Walmsley, J. B. Levert, Wm. T. Hardie, S. P. Walmsley and W. F. Hardie.

The combined resources of this big new bank reached

nearly \$15,000,000. The Canal-Louisiana set about at once to increase its banking office space. The two buildings on the corner of Camp and Gravier, which now included the Canal and Provident Bank buildings, were razed, this site being considered the best location for the *Twentieth Century-Canal Bank*.

SKY-SCRAPER.

The banking office had for seventy-five years been within a radius of one block, Magazine and Gravier—before our war with Mexico—in 1847, and at Magazine and Natchez from that time to the Civil War, 1861.

The site selected was seventy by ninety feet, and had a value of \$200,000. Diboll & Owen, Architects, designed the present ten-story office building, and Geo. W. Glover erected the building at a cost of about \$600,000, including ground, but not including the safety vault, which was not disturbed, and the foundation.

The Cashiers' and Tellers' vaults are the strongest and most commodious that could be put into the immense basement space, which has shown the possibilities of underground construction in New Orleans. The peculiar cantilever, cement construction, known as "Hennebique," has demonstrated the dry cellar as a certainty, and now ten years of use has proven it. T. P. Thompson was chairman of the Building Committee.

RENNAISSANCE.

Being born again seems to be the destiny of every permanent and persisting institution. On January 1st, 1914, there was launched in New Orleans the newest and also one of the strongest banking organizations in the lower Mississippi Valley.

In the latter part of 1913 arrangements had been perfected by which the potential forces that had accumulated with the various mergers of the previous eight years, and were represented on the Boards of the German-American

and the Canal-Louisiana Banks, might come together in one powerful banking company. A new charter was drawn and a brand new bank was fused and introduced to the people of the South and of the Mississippi Valley. New and old, continuing the traditions and prestige of the original foundation bank—the New Orleans Canal and Banking Company of 1831, and expressing the best forces of six institutions which have contributed since that date to the personnel and assets and the building up of today's *Canal Bank*.

1915.

The Canal Bank & Trust Company, capital \$2,000,000, surplus \$400,000, with enlarged offices—having added the Camp Street annex, secured by purchase of the Teutonia building. This new bank with a new portfolio of guaranteed value and the best material of many banks, men and assets, offers itself, as did its previous generations of officers and Directors, to do faithfully all that a Trust Company and Banking Corporation may do to serve each individual customer, also to pledge its share in public-serving, as it has always done in the past; ever looking forward with integrity and character as its principal capital; ever mindful, however, of the efficacy of filled coffers.

1831-1914.

This cycle of banking history comprehends and practically includes the entire period of Louisiana commerce. Nowhere in the United States can be found a bank with so long and honorable a career, and no concern exists east of the Alleghanies whose career dates back so far.

FRIENDLY COMMENT.

An editor at the completion of the present handsome office building of the Canal Bank commented as follows: "We wish to congratulate Camp Street on its finest structure, a home outwardly in keeping with the splendid history of an institution whose standing has been for several generations

in keeping with the substantial, the conservative and dignified methods of the best Southern finance. 1831 is a date so far back that it is doubtful if an original depositor lives. Seventy-five years is so long a time that it practically covers the period of American finance.

"That it should have stood the stupendous shock of the Civil War,—that it should have survived the changes in the currency, panics and booms,—that it should have lasted through numberless administrations, is a tribute to the substantiality of the lines on which it was built.

"For the great fire and burglar-proof vaults and the massive steel structure which represents its outward evidence of financial strength, are, after all, little more by way of evidence of a bank's real substantiality than is the home of an individual a token of his character.

"It is the character of the men who constitute its personnel and the spirit of its activities which count. * * * It is fortunately to be doubted, however, that the opportunity will ever come again for the Canal-Louisiana Bank to do in New Orleans what it once did for the city by materially aiding in the re-establishing the credit of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana. For such services the men who have made this institution during the last forty years will be remembered, and the institution itself will be remembered when the hand of time shall have fallen heavily upon the great structure which is now being reared so proudly to the skies."

NEW BASIN CANAL—PANAMA CANAL.

Eighty-four years! Four score years and four of continuous business organization, such is the story we have here related. The story of the most ancient and at the same time the most recent banking house in the City of New Orleans.

The old New Orleans Canal and Banking Company was known from its beginning in 1831 as the "Canal Bank." Today it is known by the third generation of bankers in Europe and in America as the "Canal Bank."

The name meant something then. It means something today. The commercial world will shortly put into use the greatest waterway devised by man, the Panama Canal, and New Orleans is the nearest American metropolis to that Canal. It is also itself the depot and entrepot of the great Mississippi Valley,—an empire with 50,000,000 people, with dozens of great manufacturing cities all connected by water with this Southern gateway of the United States.

As said before, the Canal Bank today is a new institution, the oldest and the newest in New Orleans.

1915 MODEL.

On January 1st, 1914, the assets of the several banks that of late years have been merged into and with the Canal's; these assets and all other collateral that has come to the present management—everything has been subjected to the acid test of scrutiny, and none but liquid bankable paper has been allowed to go into the portfolio of the 1915 Canal Bank.

The present bank, while proud of its honorable career during the last century, is also glad to offer today the most modern facilities and methods to the grandsons and daughters of its early patrons. We would venture to include sentiment with business, and this is the excuse for vaunting the prestige of having weathered panic, pestilence and war; of coming through all with integrity to depositors unimpeached, a long record of service to individual and community, that we hope will be sufficient apology for telling the story of the Canal Bank.

SAMUEL JARVIS PETERS.

THE MAN WHO MADE NEW ORLEANS OF TO-DAY AND BECAME
A NATIONAL PERSONALITY.

By George C. H. Kernion.

(A penniless New England boy who rose to fame and fortune. His remarkable autobiography, and other hitherto unpublished facts about one of the Nation's great sons.)

It was indeed a strange trick of Fate that old New Orleans, which had been founded by the French, who ruled over it for many years, and which later had passed under the sway of the Spanish crown—two Powers that were ever the strongest supporters of the Roman Catholic faith—should yet be awakened from its lethargic sleep and given an impetus that placed it at once among the greatest cities of the American Union; by a penniless descendant of the Puritans, those poor dissenters from the North of England, who, in order to escape the persecution due to their doctrine of free religious worship, chose a voluntary exile and left their native soil in the seventeenth century, to land, after a ten years' sojourn in Holland, on the bleak and inhospitable shores of New England at Plymouth Rock, on December the 11th, 1620.

For Samuel Jarvis Peters, Sr., the father of the great New Orleans of today, was indeed a lineal descendant of Hugh Peters, who joined those hardy pioneers who, under John Carver, Miles Standish and William Bradford, crossed the yet uncharted Atlantic in the frail "Mayflower," and planted in the new world the seeds of colonization and of that religious freedom which was eventually destined to make the American Nation truly great.

This Hugh Peters had first seen the light of day in Fowey, Cornwall, where he was baptized on June 29th, 1598. He was a man of attainments, gifted with great mentality, wit and wisdom, and a graduate of the famed Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took his B. A. degree in 1616 and his

M. A. in 1622. His father, Thomas Dyckwoode (or Peters) had married Martha Treffry, and was in affluent circumstances when his son Hugh started on the meteoric career that was to bring him eventually to exalted heights but withal to an early and cruel death.

History relates that the Peters family were originally of Norman origin, the first of the name, Sir William Petres (or Peters), coming to England as aid-de-camp in the train of William the Conqueror in 1056. Another was knighted by Henry VIII, and still another was elevated to a baronetcy by James I. Their coat of arms is recorded in the annals of the British Kingdom and is thus described: On a field gules, a golden bar surcharged with a duckling accosted by two cinquefoils, and accompanied by two shells. The family motto was: "Sans Dieu Rien."

Hugh Peters, the first of the name to come to America, was evidently not of those that are satisfied with the glorious achievements of a long and distinguished line. He believed that a man should accomplish things himself to become truly great, and hardly had he left the collegiate bench than he commenced to show himself worthy of his name. We find him first lecturing at St. Sepulchre's, London, but in 1623, and up to 1632, he occupied a post in the church at Rotterdam. In 1635 he reached Boston, Massachusetts, and one year later became minister of the First Church of Salem, in Massachusetts. His rise in the ministry was rapid, and so great was the trust the Puritans had in him that in 1641 he became their emissary to and agent in England. A friend and follower of Cromwell and Fairfax, he fought for the Commonwealth side by side with them, and after the death of the king, Charles I, obtained several important offices from the Protector. He was one of the twenty-one persons appointed to remedy the abuses of the realm, and had been one of the fifty-eight Round-heads to sign the death warrant of the king. Being arrested at the Restoration, he was consigned to the Tower of London, and on October 14, 1660, after being found guilty of the king's death, he was dragged

to Charing Cross and there suffered a traitor's death on the gibbet. After being decapitated, his body was quartered and his head stuck on a pole on London Bridge. In spite of his awful fate, Hugh Peters is recognized today as a truly great man, who, though possibly guilty of some mistakes, still endeavored to do what he thought was right and showed on many instances great kindness and moderation toward his enemies. He had married twice, his first wife being Elizabeth Cook of Pebmarsh, Essex, and his second Deliverance Sheffield.

Not only the blood of the unfortunate Hugh Peters, but also that of another distinguished Cromwellian officer, Colonel John Harrison, who shared a like fate, coursed, on the maternal side, through the veins of that splendid citizen who really made New Orleans what it is today.

It was on the thirtieth day of July, 1801, that Samuel Jarvis Peters, Sr., first saw the light of day in Canada, where his parents had removed from their native state of Connecticut during the Revolutionary War. His father, William Birdseye Peters, was born in Hebron, Conn., in 1774, and had graduated in law from Trinity College, Oxford. He later became under secretary of his relative, Colonel Jarvis. He died in Mobile, Alabama, in 1821, at the age of 47. This William Birdseye Peters had married in Canada, in 1796, Miss Patty Marvin Jarvis, of a distinguished Connecticut family, who survived him with six children, to-wit: Albertine, Samuel Jarvis, Augusta, William, Sally and Hugh Peters. Mrs. Wm. Birdseye Peters died at the advanced age of 70 years in the city of New York at No. 115 Cedar Street, where she was residing on the day of her death, March 12th, 1842, with a Mrs. Perry. Her death was a terrible one, she being accidentally burnt to death while resting in her bedroom. The Jarvis family had been singularly distinguished in Connecticut, one of the forebears of Mrs. Wm. Birdseye Peters being Abraham Jarvis, who became the second Protestant bishop of Connecticut.

The ancestors of the illustrious Samuel Jarvis Peters, of

New Orleans, were evidently gifted with wonderful vitality, for while his father died at 47, his mother attained the ripe old age of 70 years, his grandmother Jarvis died of shock in her 92nd year, and his grandfather Jarvis reached four score and ten.

Among the brothers and sisters of S. J. Peters was Hugh Peters, who inherited the fighting spirit of his ancestors as was shown by his roundly caning an Englishman who had insulted him in Marseilles in 1842, which necessitated his hasty departure from that city at the time.

Up to now little was known of the penniless New England boy who landed in 1822 on the deserted river front of New Orleans and who, in an incredibly short time, by his great powers of organization and administration, as well as his self-reliance, aroused the old colonial city of the French and Spanish to become what it is today and instilled into her sluggish veins that energy and spirit that awakened her from her lethargic sleep of more than one hundred years and placed her at once in the foremost rank of the great cities of our American Commonwealth.

Samuel Jarvis Peters sleeps his last sleep in an unpretentious grave, nestling in the shadow of the ancient trees of Washington Cemetery, in this city. No imposing pile of granite, marble or bronze marks his last abode, and while some, more favored by Renown than he, repose in splendid mausoleums that raise their pinnacled fronts to the very skies and are daily visited by hundreds of grateful citizens, Samuel Jarvis Peters, than whom no man deserved better from the people of the city he so faithfully and disinterestedly served and elevated to greatness, is almost a forgotten memory! The birds twitter over his ashes, and save for an occasional visit from some of his many descendants, no friendly footstep awakens the echo of the quiet spot where he awaits in peace the day of final judgment.

Look in the various histories of Louisiana for the name of Samuel Jarvis Peters! It is not to be found, except in the few

brief words that some historian like George Cable and Henry C. Castellanos, less forgetful than the rest, have seen fit to allow him. It is very probable that were it not for the fact that a public school, a street and an avenue of New Orleans are named after him, very few indeed in these early 20th century days would even know of his very existence!

However, it is very fortunate that an old document has recently come to light which sheds a flood of hitherto unpublished details about the man, who, in his day, was a national character. This document is nothing else than an autobiography written by the eminent citizen himself!

Hidden away in an old trunk where it had lain for about sixty years, it was discovered in the garret of the Kernion residence on Esplanade Avenue by the writer of this article. How it came there is easily explained. When Samuel Jarvis Peters died in 1855 he left two sons, Samuel J. Peters, Jr., and B. F. Peters. The family mementoes were divided between his heirs, and to Samuel J. Peters, Jr., fell the possession of the precious historical document. This Samuel J. Peters, Jr., who had married a Miss Aspasie de la Villebeuvre, had adopted as his child a Miss Heloise Campbell, a second cousin of his wife, who had lost her parents at a tender age. When Samuel J. Peters, Jr., died, his wife inherited everything he possessed, and at her death their adopted child, Miss Heloise Campbell, who was then Mrs. A. L. H. Kernion, became the heir and possessor of the precious autobiography.

Let us picture to ourselves, if we can, the City of New Orleans as it stood in 1822, when Samuel Jarvis Peters, a perfect stranger and barely 21 years of age, landed in our midst. Its population then was less than 50,000; its streets were unpaved; not a sidewalk had yet been built for the accommodation of its citizens, and its river front was practically deserted, there being not a single wharf yet erected to take care of the river traffic. It was still the old city of the French and Spanish, bounded by the river, Canal, Rampart and Esplanade Streets; the Vieux Carre comprising

then the whole of our present busy metropolis. Gas had not yet been tried for lighting purposes and the water supply was peddled from carts in the shape of hogsheads mounted on wheels that dispensed the Mississippi River water at so much per gallon. This was the New Orleans that met the young Yankee lad's eyes as he reached the city of his hopes and desires. But let us take up his autobiography and let us hear the recital of his achievements from his own pen, for though the said autobiography is written in the third person singular and would appear to have been composed by some one else, the handwriting is identical with that of original letters written by Mr. Peters himself and still extant, and was undoubtedly penned by him, perhaps for subsequent publication.

We believe that death stayed Mr. Peters' hand ere he had completed the writing of his public life, as the autobiography ends abruptly at the year 1835 and the last sentence of it is left unfinished. Still, as it stands, it is a most curious monograph on the public life of the times and is worthy of being preserved for posterity. We shall now take it up, and after reading it, shall complete the history of Mr. Peter's remarkable life from 1835 up to the day of his death, adding also some interesting details of his career and private life previous to 1835 and not mentioned in the autobiography.

The autobiography of Mr. Peters is written in his small, firm and legible hand on 20 pages of $10\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{3}{8}$ paper. It reads as follows:

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF SAMUEL JARVIS PETERS.

Copied Verbatim from the Original Document Lately Found.

"Mr. Peters whose name for the last twenty years has been so prominently connected with the growth and advancement of New Orleans, was originally from Connecticut, his family being one of the most respected in that State, the Gubernatorial Chair and the Bench and Bar having been

honorably occupied at various periods by his relatives. A descendant of the pilgrims, he possesses in a singular degree that indomitable energy, perseverance and unswerving adhesion to principle, which enabled them to found the most glorious commonwealth of the earth.

"As we have been credibly informed, young Peters when at School in Connecticut, and at the age of sixteen, was engaged in drawing a map of North America, and while tracing the vast Mississippi and its tributaries and fixing thereupon the location of New Orleans, computed the extent of inland navigation and the area of country tributary to that City, and declared that New Orleans should be his abiding place.

"At that time that City was looked upon as a vast graveyard and that none who went from New England ever returned; and every effort was made by his relatives to dissuade him from so fearful a project. Happily they did not succeed.

"It was among other things stated that no one could get profitable employment in New Orleans, unless he could speak French, which at that time was to a great extent true; to overcome this difficulty young Peters procured a situation in New York in a French Counting House and a residence with a respectable French family, and during his leisure hours, which were between 9 and 11 o'clock at night, took French lessons from an old French gentleman occupying the attic of a house in the lower part of the City. In a few years he acquired an excellent knowledge of that language which he speaks as fluently as his vernacular. He soon also acquired the Spanish language, with which he is yet familiar. Thus prepared and with a good knowledge of business and the duties of the counting house, young Peters left New York in Oct. 1821, then aged twenty, and five years after he had determined on fixing himself for life in New Orleans. In November of that year he reached that City, provided with letters recommending him to many of the first houses of the place as a clerk.

"He had, as he has told the writer, but money enough to pay two weeks' board, and had no time to lose, but had at once to go to work. It was indeed a sight worthy of being commemorated to see the Yankee lad emerging from the cabin of a little schooner, for his finances did not admit of his going in a packet ship, unless in the steerage, which his spirit would not brook, and landing on the levee of New Orleans, then without a wharf in its whole extent, and going through its streets, then without a pavement or a sidewalk, with a porter following him with a little trunk containing his all. Then he was a stranger. He knew no one, and no one knew him. Yet within eight years from that time, he had so gained the confidence and esteem of the people, that he was elevated to their City Council, and immediately commenced a system of improvements which has resulted in the erection of four miles of wharves, affording to commerce as much, if not more conveniences than any other City of the world possesses, and in paving over sixty miles of streets with commodious sidewalks, not surpassed by any of our Northern cities. The landing of Franklin at Philadelphia and walking up Chestnut Street seeking employment with a loaf of bread under each arm, is scarcely more remarkable.

"Within a few days after his arrival in New Orleans, Mr. Peters procured a situation in the counting house of a respectable merchant from New York, with whom he remained during two years, enjoying his entire confidence and being solely charged with his business during the summer season. The first summer (1822) occurred probably the most fatal epidemic that had before or has since visited New Orleans. Mr. Peters resided at a private boarding house with seven other persons, all, like himself, unacclimated. He was the only survivor!

"In 1823 he engaged in business with Mr. Millard and established the house of Peters and Millard, which has been for many years the oldest commercial firm in the City, and is esteemed among the most wealthy. For strict integrity and honorable dealing, no house in the Union stands higher,

and Mr. Peters is most deservedly ranked among the first merchants of the South. The Chamber of Commerce, of which he was the founder, has unanimously elected him their President for many years, and his reports on various subjects; the Credit System; Warehousing System, etc., have been much commended for deep research and practical observation.

"It was in 1829 Mr. Peters was persuaded to become a candidate for the City Council. At that time it was without precedent for a person of Anglo-Saxon origin to be elected from the Square of the City; which is chiefly inhabited to this day by the population of French and Spanish origin. Mr. Peters however was elected by a large majority. The poor boy of eight years before, had become an extensive owner of real estate, all of which was situated above the old City and in that part exclusively occupied by the new population, of the progressiveness of which the ancients were exceedingly jealous. But such was their confidence in the integrity, justice and judgment of Mr. Peters, that his apparently adverse interests presented no obstacle to his selection as one of the representatives of the old City.

"Mr. Peters was placed at the head of the Committee on Streets and Landings, and one of his first reports was to recommend the construction of wharves at the lower part of the City, opposite what was then called Faubourg Marigny, now known as the Third Municipality. The cost was about \$15,000, which at that time, when the revenue of the City was about \$200,000, was thought a very large sum. For several years previous, the discussions in the City Council had been characterised by local and national prejudices, which had rendered it exceedingly disagreeable to be a member of that body. The members from the upper Faubourgs were of the new population, that is Americans of Anglo-Saxon origin. They, assuming somewhat the manner of conquerors, and an intellectual superiority which they did not always merit, were encountered by those, who looked upon them in the light of intruders on their ancient domain, with

strange notions, uncouth manners and barbarous customs. Innovators they certainly were, but they knew how to effect salutary changes. Mr. Peters' course was conciliatory, carefully avoiding to offend the nice sensibilities of a high-minded and gallant people, restive under a sense of the overwhelming power of the new-comers, soon destined to eradicate all vestiges of their origin. Their interests, their feelings and even their prejudices were by him treated with marked respect, and the consequence was that Mr. Peters during the time he was a member of the City Council, was as much 'the Council' as he is said to be since of another municipal body.

"It was during the succeeding year that Mr. Peters was placed at the head of the Finance Committee. The extreme bad management of the pecuniary affairs of the City had long been the subject of great complaint, and altho' the revenue was known to be equal in amount to the expenditures, yet the warrants on the Treasury for current expenses were sold in the streets at ruinous discounts.

"Mr. Peters entered at once on an examination of the books and accounts of the Treasurer. Such examinations had been nominally made by preceeding Committees and the accounts of the Treasurer were duly approved. But Mr. Peters entered on the duty assigned him with the determination to make a thorough investigation.

"Every imaginable obstacle was thrown in his way. It was thought offensive in the highest degree to doubt the integrity of the Treasurer and his employees, men, until then, standing high in the estimation of their fellow citizens. Threats of demanding satisfaction by the duello, at that time common, were met by Mr. Peters with the assurance that such satisfaction would be given to all whom he might unjustly injure.

"The examination had not proceeded far before one person charged with the collection of a branch of the revenue absconded and another destroyed himself, and finally defalcations to an enormous amount were discovered to have oc-

curred during the preceeding seven years; and beyond that time the investigations could not be continued, as all the principal books were not to be found.

"Twice during this investigation it was attempted to assassinate the persevering Chairman of the Committee but it did not avail. A thorough reform was effected and a system of accountability was introduced by Mr. Peters which we believe exists to this day, and which effectually prevents the recurrence of similar frauds.

"This event made the high qualities of Mr. Peters stand out in bold relief. He was sustained by the people with great unanimity; his self-sacrificing devotion to the public interests, the fidelity and conscientiousness with which he performed his duties justly won the admiration of all.

"On the following year (1830), the credit of the City being entirely restored, or rather created by the course of Mr. Peters, he introduced a comprehensive system for erecting wharves along the whole front of the Square of the City and the Faubourg St. Mary, extending as far as St. Joseph Street; also for paving the principal business streets and thoroughfares. A loan of \$300,000 was effected at a favorable rate and the first great impulse was given towards making the Metropolis of the South-West, a City worthy its high destinies. These important measures were not adopted without opposition from some of the older members of the Council who considered such innovations as fraught with danger to the best interests of the ancient population. It was urged that paved streets were particularly disagreeable from the noise occasioned by carts and carriages, that if they contributed to the health of the City it was an objection inasmuch as the ancient population was not liable to yellow fever, and as to strangers there were already too many among them: and it is unquestionably a fact that but a few years before, when an enterprising citizen, A. L. Duncan, Esq., imported from the north a few yards of curb stones in order to make a side walk around his property, at the corner of Royal and Bienville Street, that the work was arrested by

the City authorities because the ordinances required that the curbing should be made of cypress.

"It was during this year that Mr. Peters took an active part in establishing the first rail road completed in the South, the Pontchartrain Rail Road, which connects the City with the Lake of that name. It was undertaken and completed in one year, a large portion of it being made through what was then deemed an impassable swamp. On it the first locomotive engine was used in the United States. The ancients of the City predicted most confidently when the work was commenced, that none of the existing generation would live to witness its completion. Great was their amazement when within a few months they gazed on this evidence of American enterprise. It was, we think in the same year that Mr. Peters visited all the principal water works of the north and obtained all the information necessary for the establishment of water works in New Orleans, for the supply of the City with pure and wholesome water. The Commercial Bank Water Works were the result of this effort. Previous to their establishment, the people depended for their daily supply on water carts carrying a hogshead of the water of the Mississippi, taken from the front of the Levee opposite the City, where all the offal and filth were thrown. These works have doubtless been of incalculable advantage to the City and are yet susceptible of being greatly extended.

"Mr. Peters served but two or three years in the old City Council. His services there and elsewhere for the public good, constituted those years an important epoch in the history of New Orleans. The indomitable spirit of American enterprise had gained a secure foothold, its beneficent effects were seen, felt and appreciated, sectional and national prejudices and animosities were allayed, and Mr. Peters, content with having done some good to the City of his adoption, withdrew from a position that had caused him much anxiety and no inconsiderable personal sacrifice. His determination was never again to become a prominent actor in public affairs. But a few years after, circumstances again

compelled him to take an active part in organizing a new and admirable system of Municipal Government of which he was the author, and which was and is, peculiarly fitted for New Orleans; a system which has indeed developed in a remarkable degree its immense resources, and has placed it morally, intellectually and commercially among the first cities of our country.

"During the intervening time from his quitting the City Council in 1831 or 1832, to 1836 when the new system was adopted, Mr. Peters was actively engaged in plans for the advancement of the City. The Chamber of Commerce was established chiefly thro' his efforts, and soon after Mr. Peters selected as its President, and he has been unanimously re-elected from year to year to the present time. Composed as that body is of the most intelligent and respected merchants of New Orleans, it has done incalculable good. Many unsettled commercial questions depending on custom, equity or law have been settled by this body of practical merchants and its decisions have been uniformly acquiesced in, not only by the commercial community, but by the highest judicial authority of the State. A vast deal of litigation has thus been avoided, and time and money saved.

"While yet in the Council we believe, he was chosen President of the Pontchartrain Rail Road, a director of the Bank of Louisiana; and soon after President of the City Bank; over which he has presided with distinguished ability and devotion to its interests, since its creation in 1832, conducting the institution thro' most perilous times and under discouraging circumstances sufficient to appall and prostrate the moral and physical energies of most men.

"During the same period, Mr. Peters, in conjunction with a few other public-spirited citizens, projected the building of the Merchants Exchange, a very handsome edifice on Royal Street now occupied as an Exchange and Post Office; also that magnificent structure the St. Charles Hotel, which is deservedly classed among the most beautiful specimens of architecture on the continent of America. In truth there

is scarcely a beneficial public work or structure that has been made in New Orleans, during the last twenty years that does not, in a great measure, owe its existence to the enlightened enterprise and untiring perseverance of this gentleman. More recently he has caused to be erected, having founded a company for that object, the new Commercial Exchange on St. Charles Street.

"We have referred to the change in the form of City Government which took place in 1836 and it may not be uninteresting to state the causes in connection with this biographical sketch. In 1835, the acerbity of feeling which had caused such unfortunate divisions in the City Council prior to Mr. Peters becoming a member of that body in 1829, had and from similar causes become revived. Debates, the most exciting and acrimonious arose on questions of local improvement. The members of the Council representing the ancient portion of the City were as two to one to those from what was termed 'le faubourg Americain', or the American Faubourg, now the most populous and wealthy part of the City. All paving and all improvements to the landings were made within the limits of the lower part of the City, while above where, already a vast proportion of the trade was located, altho' as heavily taxed as other parts, not a wharf was permitted to be made or even repaired, and the streets were left unpaved. In consequence of this, damage was sustained one year to an extent exceeding one million of Dollars by the impassable condition of the streets. What made such a state of things the more insupportable was the fact that streets were being paved where a cart load of merchandise never passed, a mile distant from the center of commerce.

"The Faubourg St. Mary, almost exclusively occupied by the American population, already possessed nearly all the trade of the western country, the produce of which was loaded on the wharves opposite, so long as they were acceptable; but the accumulation of Batture or alluvial formation from 1831, when the wharves were constructed, to 1835.

had become so great that the ends of the wharves could not be approached by steamboats. During the latter year, a petition from the proprietors and merchants of that part of the City, petitioned the Council to extend these wharves and their memorial was unceremoniously rejected. This created a deep feeling of resentment among the inhabitants of the proscribed portion of the City, which was probably the more intense in consequence of race animosity being combined with local jealousies.

"A meeting was soon after held by the people of the upper part of the City, when a statement of their grievances was adopted and it was determined to memorialize the Legislature to separate that portion of the Parish of Orleans above Canal Street from the lower part, and to grant the inhabitants thereof a separate and independent character, that it should in fact be a City with its Mayor and Council and distinct organization.

"Mr. Peters was present at the meeting and opposed the measure. He strongly advocated a moderate and conciliatory policy. He thought the Council might be induced to abandon the false position it had taken. He deprecated the project of forming a separate City with an independent organization of City Government. He considered such a step as fraught with danger to the peace and character of the City, that two populations of different origin, each headed by indiscreet persons exercising the functions of Chief Magistrate, might on questions of local interests become so excited as to lead to the most disastrous consequences. He objected also to the heavy taxation which would unavoidably result from such a project; for at that time the part of the City now the Second Municipality contained but 12,000 inhabitants, and the assessed value of their property was but one-fourth that of the whole City. It could possess no sources of revenue but those which might be created, its streets were unpaved, and its wharves were useless. No sea-going vessel had ever discharged its cargo at its landings.

"Weighty and well founded as these objections were, Mr.

Peters was nearly alone in his opposition to the measure; but he declared he would exert himself to procure justice from the Council of the City, and if he did not succeed, he would also abandon all hope and join his fellow-citizens above Canal Street in some measure that would afford them relief from their grievances.

"The Legislature, for reasons such as Mr. Peters had advanced at the meeting referred to, rejected the project. It was then that its advocates looked to Mr. Peters for that relief which he had supposed obtainable from the Council.

"Mr. Peters immediately prepared a memorial to the Council, setting forth in conciliatory language, but with much dignity and firmness, the facts of the case, and urging upon the Council to do justice to that portion of their fellow-citizens who had such just cause of complaint, and in order to remove an objection which had before been urged to the projected improvements, namely that the City had not the money wherewith to make them, Mr. Peters and other responsible citizens offered to lend the City the amount required payable in ten years with 6 per cent interest.

"These propositions were rejected, singularly as it may appear, by the Council, but by a majority of one. This separated the City. There was no longer grounds for hope of justice, and Mr. Peters determined as he had pledged himself to do on such a contingency, to devise a plan of City Government which would secure all the advantages which the advocates of a separate and independent City expected, without incurring the dangers which such a project, in his opinion threatened. The result was the present system of City Government in New Orleans, altho' Mr. Peters' plan as it was presented to the Legislature, underwent some changes which as time has proved were most injudicious.

"The basis of this system of Municipal Government was the Union of the States; each independent in all matters of local interests, but all bound together and forming one under a General Government for common interests with one Chief Magistrate. The City was divided into three Municipalities,

the center or old City, being the First, the upper part, or new portion being the Second, and the Faubourgs at the lower extremity being the Third. Each was authorized to have its Recorder and Council. The acts of each Council were made subject to the qualified veto of the Mayor, which might be overruled by two thirds of the Council. The Mayor was eligible by a majority of the votes of the whole City. The Separate Councils were to be elected by the people of their respective Councils, and * * *

(End of Autobiography.)

And so ends abruptly this interesting autobiography of Samuel Jarvis Peters at the year 1836 and nineteen years before his death. We shall try in our following remarks to complete it as amply as possible. I add some interesting details which the foregoing autobiography fails to record:

Samuel Jarvis Peters, Sr., was a profound scholar and a deeply religious and thoroughly upright man, devoted to his business pursuits and family circle, and his great aim in life was to raise his family properly, to make hard workers of his sons and to give them the education necessary to make of them later on in life, worthy and useful citizens.

His union with Miss Marianne Angelique de Silly, an estimable young lady from St. Domingo, was blessed with two sons and two daughters. Samuel J. Peters, Jr., his eldest son, was sent to Geneva, Switzerland, where for three years and a half he studied under the best masters, and was even a pupil of the celebrated cartoonist Toepfer. This son also read law for a while with the eminent lawyer, Christian Roselius, a close personal friend of his father, not, as he himself said, to become a lawyer, but simply to acquire that knowledge of law that a business man should have, his father having destined him to become, like himself, a merchant.

So religiously inclined were the children of Samuel Jarvis Peters, Sr., that his eldest son, whilst engaged in business in New York in 1841 with the wholesale hardware

firm of Fellows, Wadsworth & Co., 17 Maiden Lane, still found the time every evening, when the toil of the day was over, to read a chapter of the Bible before retiring for the night. Later on, in 1842, this same son engaged his services with the wholesale grocery firm of G. W. Stirling & Co., 230 Front Street, New York, and in order to acquire a full knowledge of the business he intended to take up as his life's work, we find him, in spite of his father's wealth and standing, casting aside, as it were, for a time, his ancestral pride, working in overalls and rolling hogsheads of sugar or carrying bags of coffee and what not—toiling, in one word, as an humble warehouseman.

The youngest son of Mr. Peters, B. F. Peters, a well-known stock broker of New Orleans, who died in this city within the past few years, had been destined for the law. After attending the well-known Middletown school of his relative, S. Farmer-Jarvis, a learned Connecticut clergyman and author, he entered Harvard University in 1850 and graduated therefrom in the law department in 1852.

Mr. Peters had the misfortune of losing his two daughters in the year 1854, Miss Myrthe Peters, unmarried, dying in this city, after a long and painful illness, on May 26th, aged twenty-one years, and her sister Miss Henriette Angelique Peters, wife of Jules A. Blanc, Esq., following her to the grave on the 26th of August of the same year, at the age of twenty-six. This awful visitation of Death's Angel was a blow which undoubtedly hastened the end of the afflicted father.

But let us go back and take up the thread of our interrupted biography from the year 1836.

It was in 1838 or 1839 that Mr. Peters received a signal honor from many of the very best citizens of New Orleans who appreciated deeply the great services he had rendered the community in upbuilding the city and in founding therein a splendid educational system. Having gathered together, they presented him with a magnificent service of plate, consisting of a huge and massive tray, a soup tureen,

two pitchers and six covered dishes. In making the presentation speech, Mr. I. W. Stanton, who had been selected as chairman for the occasion, spoke in part, as follows:

"In all, or nearly all, the great enterprises and improvements which have benefited or ornamented the Second Municipality of this metropolis, you have been a conspicuous leader. Others, it is true, have been your associates and co-laborers—others there are who have labored in the great work, which, as if by magic, converted a swamp into a beautiful and commodious city. But you, sir, have been especially distinguished as the originator or proposer of the chief important measures, and upon your character has rested the responsibility of failure or success. At all times and in all seasons, through good and through evil report, you have nobly and honestly responded to the confidence of your constituents, fulfilling the manifold duties of your station with singular faithfulness and ability. In a place like New Orleans, there is much that is crude and new, where the increase in size and population is so rapid; and prompt and liberal public measures become absolutely necessary.

"Amid those gigantic undertakings for the general arrangement of this municipality involving enormous outlays of means, we were overtaken by that 'commercial monsoon'—a season of public and private embarrassment, unparalleled in our country, when gloom and apprehension rested upon the firmest minds. Then it was that your talents, combined with the most indomitable energy, wisely administered our finances, saving our corporation from threatened ruin. The artist who lately represented you as Atlas bearing the city upon your shoulders, has given a not inapt illustration of your doings amid that trying period.

"I shall not attempt a narration of your public acts here, since it would be the minute history of the municipal affairs of the last ten years. I may, however, point to the well-paved streets, the flagged sidewalks, the shelled and graded levee, the excellent ship landing, the wharves, the

public squares, the markets, the city lights, and the efficient police, as evidences in part of what has been accomplished. But identified as you are with almost every public matter in this part of the city, they do not exhibit your worthiest doings. Oh, no! All your steadfast and unceasing labors, all the general self-sacrifice with which you have devoted so many years of your past life, all sink into insignificance in consequence, when compared with what shall result from your instrumentality in establishing the system of free schools among us. In this, we behold your noblest conception; one which fixes your character as a philanthropist, and classes you with the good and the great. When all your other labors shall have been forgotten, when the beautiful edifices which you have assisted in rearing shall have perished, and become trophies of the dust, when your name and your deeds shall have passed from remembrance then will this great work, the most powerful instrument of human improvement, tracing its imperishable impress upon the undying mind, pass beyond the confines of time and rear for its founders a monument in immortality."

Mr. Stanton then expatiated at length on the advantages and necessity of the free school system in the Valley of the Mississippi, and brought his glowing address to a close in this wise:

"Among the beautiful and simple-hearted customs of old times was one of presenting to the good and the worthy tokens of enduring friendship and esteem. The Greeks and the Romans made use of a white stone, upon which was engraven the name of the man to be so honored, and this, once given and received, remained a pledge and memorial for all succeeding time. Let these emblems of our regard be as the white stone of the ancients, between us. They are the prompt, spontaneous offering of as warm hearts as ever beat in their bosoms. To you they will be forever fraught with deep and spirit-stirring associations, for as often as your eye shall rest upon them, they will

call up this approval of your friends and speak encouragement amid your arduous duties.

"God grant you long life. May you enjoy that prosperity and happiness you so well deserve. May 'home'—as the evening of your days comes on—may your own peaceful home still breathe about you its familiar influences. And when this brief human travel is ended, when the shadows of death shall settle about you, may the bright inspirations of hope then cheer you with the consolation of a well-spent life, and may your name be transferred from these frail memorials to a crown of everlasting life."

Mr. Peters' reply was characteristic of the man, and in reference to the establishment of the free school system which he had founded, he said in part:

"Nothing could be more gratifying to me than the manner in which you have alluded to my efforts to establish and maintain our system of public schools. Happy indeed would it be if your opinion of the importance of the general diffusion of knowledge among the people were generally known and felt by the inhabitants of the great valley of the Mississippi. Education is the only means by which a people are made capable of self-government. To ignorance alone may be described all the evils which now afflict our country and retard its prosperity.

"New England as the pioneer in the cause of popular education, has set the world a noble example. Her sons may well boast of her power, her influence and her triumphs, whether over mind or matter, whether on the land or on the sea; and point to her schools as the source of all

"In the establishment of our public schools, those of New England were taken as models, but with such admirable efficiency have our schools been administered by the worthy President and Board of Directors, that our system has recently been recommended by the Superintendent of Public Education of the State of Massachusetts as worthy the adoption of the people of that State. Now,

when it is considered that all attempts in the South to establish the public school system had proved abortive until the Council of the Second Municipality determined in 1842 it should succeed, the result seems incredible.

"Already are efforts being made in the North to engraft on their public school system our plan of a school library, established by voluntary contributions of the scholars. So it may be said we have already commenced to cancel the obligations we are under, for the valuable information which their experience has imparted to us."

Samuel Jarvis Peters was indeed the founder of the Public School System of New Orleans. He rightfully deserves the title of "Father of the Public Schools" of this city, for while to John McDonogh belongs the honor of having furnished the means of broadening out that system and making it the great and priceless organization that it is today, to Samuel Jarvis Peters, Sr., belongs the credit of having been the innovator and architect that laid the broad, deep and lasting foundations on which it was ultimately to rest. It was only in 1855, after a long contest by his heirs, that the money left by McDonogh, in his will, to the City of New Orleans for Public Schools was available, though that eccentric philanthropist had died on August 25, 1850. Yet in 1854, and before McDonogh's munificent gift was available, New Orleans boasted already of twenty-six public school houses, all built through the untiring efforts and indomitable energy of Mr. Peters, who had patterned them after the most approved models that prevailed in the New England States at that time.

We have seen already that Mr. Peters was one of the real builders of that part of the new city then known as the Second Municipality, but now called the First District of New Orleans. In connection therewith, it is interesting to mention a certain anecdote chronicled by the late Henry C. Castellanos in his book: "New Orleans as It Was." It seems that Mr. Peters, who lived in the *vieu carre*, and whose place of business was also in the *vieu carre* at Nos.

34-35 Old Levee, and his worthy auxiliary and co-worker, James H. Caldwell, had originally selected the present Third District as the field for their mighty civic improvements. The love existing at the time, between the franco-americans and the anglo-americans in New Orleans, was none too great, and it just happened that the old "faubourg" selected by Mr. Peters and Mr. Caldwell as the field of their future operations, was virtually owned by that proud Creole princeling, Monsieur Bernard de Marigny. Being informed of the plans of Messrs. Peters and Caldwell to beautify his domains by the building of a first-class hotel opposite the present terminus of the Pontchartrain Railroad, also the construction of a large theatre and the laying out of handsome, paved streets as well as warehouses, cotton presses, gas and waterworks plants, etc., to make it a commercial and social center, Monsieur de Marigny finally consented to dispose of his vast estates for a fabulous price. The act of sale was finally drawn up, but when purchasers and vendor met, on the appointed day, in the notary's office, to sign the deed of transfer, Madame de Marigny failed to put in appearance, and as her signature was necessary on account of certain paraphernal rights she possessed in the property about to be sold, the deal could not be consummated without her. Trembling with rage at this unexpected and, as he believed, premeditated disappointment, Mr. Peters, after soundly berating Monsieur de Marigny for his breach of agreement, finally exclaimed: "I shall live, by God, to see the day when rank grass shall choke up the gutters of your old 'faubourg.'" We know how well his prophecy was ultimately fulfilled, and as a woman once lost the Garden of Eden for the human race, so to a woman—Madame de Marigny—belongs, shall I say, the credit of having lost for the Third District the now decrepit Elysian Fields Avenue, the elegance and prosperity that now belong to the Upper District and to that beauty spot of New Orleans, St. Charles Avenue! *Tempora mutantur, sed mulieres non mutantur in illis.*

In the presidential election of 1844 that resulted in the election of the Democratic candidate, Jas. K. Polk, of Tennessee, as President of the United States, Mr. Peters was an ardent advocate of Henry Clay, the Whig nominee for that high office. Fragments of a speech delivered by Mr. Peters to the voters of German origin in New Orleans, in October, 1844, was discovered by the author of this sketch in that self-same old trunk that contained the curious autobiography we have already read. Believing that it may prove interesting, we take the liberty of quoting a few excerpts of same. It reads in part as follows:

"Fellow Citizens: I appear before you in compliance with your call, well aware of my inability to do justice to the cause in which we are engaged or to meet your expectations.

"I feel encouraged, however, by the belief that I am as zealous as any among you, that I appreciate the importance of the political conflict in which we are contending and know that on our success depends the future welfare of our country and the cause of political freedom throughout the world. The result will show whether the American people are capable of self-government. I assert that they are and that the defeat of Locofoco Jacobinism in two weeks from this time will prove it to the world.

"Locofocoism predicates its success on the assumed ignorance and depravity of the people. Their newspapers and their orators address, not their reason, but their prejudices and their worst passions. They avoid truth as the prowling hyena shuns the glorious light of day. Their weapons are falsehood, calumny and detraction, by which they seek to bring down to their own debased level the great and good men of our country to whose examples we look as beacons....."

Mr. Peters then plunges into a glowing eulogy of his friend, Henry Clay.

"Let me tell you, too," he says, "something of Henry Clay, the great advocate and expounder of the principles of our

party, he whose name is known throughout the civilized world as the great champion of Liberty, in every clime, among every people; he whose voice has reached the Andes, animating the inhabitants of South America to emulate their neighbors of the Northern Hemisphere in resisting European oppression; he whose voice has reached the classic land of Greece, reminding its people of the glory of their ancestry acquired in the cause of human liberty, and unfortunate Poland, whose heroic struggles in the same glorious cause have won the admiration and sympathy of the world. To the people of these distant lands, the name of our illustrious Clay is familiar as the friend of the human race. But here in his own beloved country which he has faithfully served for upwards of forty years, here I say, and here alone, are men found who are so lost to patriotism and honor as to represent him as an enemy of foreigners and of naturalized citizens! The sons of the Vaterland cannot be deceived by such base means. . . . We appeal to the acts and opinions of those men who possessed his confidence and enjoyed his friendship; and finally we appeal to the experience of our country while such men directed its councils in contrast with the dark pages in our history which record the illegal acts, the reckless experiments and the immoral consequences of General Jackson's administration of the affairs of our country."

"Mr. Peters then pays his respects to John Tyler, who still occupied the Presidential chair:

"John Tyler," he says, "I feel that I ought to apologize for naming him! His name, however, is destined to an unenviable celebrity. Like that of Erostratus, it will reach the latest posterity. Already more than 2,000 years have elapsed and the name of the destroyer of the Temple of Diana is familiar to all. But Erostratus was not selected by the Ephesians as the guardian of their beautiful temple—one of the wonders of the world! He violated no trust. He was not a Traitor! To John Tyler was confided by the American people, the preservation of their glorious Temple

of Liberty—a wonder of the world—a thousand times more valued than all the monuments of ancient times. Honored by this confidence of twenty millions of freemen, he has dared to violate that trust and with his impious and traitorous hands dared to aid its enemies in plotting for its destruction. More infamous than Erostratus will his name go down to posterity!”

Mr. Peters then closes his fervid discourse in these words:

“Fellow Whigs, the day of battle is near. On us, the young Whigs of the country, our fathers look with joy and gladness as on a reinforcement sent from Heaven to aid them in the glorious fight. For twenty years they have manfully resisted Jacksonism and Locofocoism and all the evils worse than war, pestilence and famine, which have followed in their train.

“On then to the breach, clad in the impenetrable armor of truth and patriotism, inspirited by the glorious watchword of Henry Clay: ‘I would rather be right than be President!’ Victory will crown our efforts. Our Ship of State—the Constitution—will be rescued. The immortal spirit of Washington will smile on us and our country will be happy.”

In 1846, the war with Mexico broke out, Texas having been admitted in the American Union during the preceding year. In 1848, the victorious General Zachary Taylor, the hero of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, and Buena Vista, visited New Orleans, where he was received with great enthusiasm. On Sunday, January 9th, 1848, he attended divine service with his friend Samuel Jarvis Peters, sitting in Mr. Peters’ family pew, and calling at his home, for a long visit, thereafter. On the 14th of the same month and year, Mr. Peters entertained at a splendid dinner in honor of his distinguished guest. Those present for the occasion were: General Taylor, Col. Bailie Peyton, Col. Winthrop, Mr. Lockett, Mr. Jules A. Blanc, Capt. Garnett, Mr. Chas. Millard (Mr. Peters business partner),

S. J. Peters, Jr., (his son), Mr. Evariste Blanc, Judge Lacey, Recorder Joshua Baldwin, Mr. John U. LaVillebeuvre, Messrs. Barstow and William of New York, Mr. Jas. Robb, Mr. J. W. Stanton, Capt. Allison, Mr. W. L. Hodge and Judge Bullard.

On Jan. 15th. of the same year, Mr. Peters again entertained his guest, General Taylor, at another sumptuous dinner in the back parlor of his home. The General was jovial on this occasion and looked well pleased. The meal started at 6.45 p. m. and lasted until 10 p. m.

In February 1848, Mr. Peters' cousin, Samuel Jarvis Ferris, married in New York, a Miss Roosevelt, a relative of our former strenuous President of the United States.

Mr. Peters, as we have already seen, was a staunch and loyal Whig, and as such, took an active part in the local Municipal Campaign of 1848, leading the Whigs to victory at the polls on April 3, 1848. When the polls closed at 6 p. m., M. M. Reynolds, the Locofoco candidate for Mayor, had been badly defeated for the position by Mr. Crossman, the Whig nominee, Mr. Peters had been re-elected Councilman, and Joshua Reynolds, Whig, had snowed under his adversary, Thos. H. Howard, Locofoco, for the Recordership of the Second Municipality. It was a clean-cut victory, and so jubilant were the successful Whigs over the outcome of the day, that headed by two bands of music, they repaired in a body to Mr. Peters' home, where they crowded his rooms, congratulated him on his skillful leadership, serenaded him, made merry, drank toasts and feasted until the early hours of the morning.

The war with Mexico, resulting from the annexation of Texas by the United States in 1845, had given rise to a complicated situation in national politics. The large expenditures of public moneys necessary to successfully combat with our sister republic, had occasioned a depreciation of the market price of the government securities and caused a great upheaval and derangement in the finances and commerce of the nation. Pressure was being brought to bear

on the House of Representatives by those opposed to the war, to terminate the struggle ere it had been brought to a successful issue, and thus allay the financial depression of the country. But many of the democrats, who favored the continuation of the war, believing that they could accomplish their ends by affiliating with either of the great political parties, nominated as their candidate Gen. Zachary Taylor, who was then in charge of the Mexican campaign, and was known to be a man of independent political opinion, and was even said to have never taken part in politics or even cast his vote once in his whole life. In this Presidential campaign, in which Mr. Peters was to play a conspicuous part, the presidential possibilities were Gen. Taylor, Henry Clay, Lewis Cass, John C. Calhoun and ex-President Martin Van Buren. Henry Clay was the most important adversary of Gen. Taylor, but as Clay had been opposed to the annexation of Texas and the war with Mexico, he was eliminated, and Gen. Taylor was nominated by the Whig Convention in Philadelphia. On May 23, 1848, Mr. Peters, who represented the Whigs of this city, left for Philadelphia on the steamer "Oregon" to attend the National Whig Convention which was to meet in that city on June 7, 1848. On the 1st of June, 1848, Mr. Peters wired his son from Washington, D. C., as follows:

"General Taylor's nomination is certain. I shall go North this evening, spend Sunday at Stamford, return Monday to New York, leave Philadelphia Tuesday, help to nominate Gen. Taylor Wednesday, and on Saturday 10th inst., will leave for home on steamship 'Southerner,' via Charleston."

The Whigs duly nominated Gen. Taylor for President, and Millard Fillmore for Vice-President, while the Democrats, in their National Convention held in May, 1848, in Baltimore, selected Gen. Cass for President, and Gen. Butler for Vice-President.

The campaign then began in earnest, Mr. Peters returned to New Orleans at once to take charge of the local end of

it for Gen. Taylor, great torchlight parades took place, and on June 30, 1848, Gen. Taylor, in fine health and spirits, reached New Orleans and proceeded at once to Mr. Peters' home where he had a two hours' consultation with him.

On August 7, 1848, Mr. Peters and the aldermen of the city held a reception in honor of Gen. Persifor F. Smith, the hero of Contreras. Leaving New Orleans at 9 a. m., on the steamer "Conqueror," they proceeded to the Barracks below the city, where they met their distinguished guest and tendered him a great ovation.

During the summer of this same year, Mr. Peters purchased a summer home in Bay St. Louis, Miss., at a cost of \$3,000.

But the autumn at length drew near, and as the day of the Presidential election approached, the political excitement increased in New Orleans. Meetings were held every night, music and oratory and red-fire ruled the hours. Mr. Peters was here, there and everywhere, encouraging and urging his followers to still greater efforts and enthusiasm. The Democrats gave a great torch-light procession on the night of October 28, 1848, and in their excitement were alleged to have set fire to and burnt down a coffee house on the corner of Circus and Poydras streets. Not to be outdone, Mr. Peters and the other Whig leaders, organized a still greater illuminated procession, which traversed the streets of New Orleans in November, 1848, the day before the election, and which took an hour and a half to pass a given point.

The Whigs were successful and the next day they swept the city and the whole country like an avalanche. Taylor and Fillmore were duly elected by enormous majorities. On the 28th of November following the election, President-elect Taylor arrived in New Orleans. Mr. Peters met him on the way and after dining together on a near-by plantation, they entered the city in triumph at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Cholera broke out in New Orleans in December of the

same year, but Mr. Peters and his family escaped the terrible scourge.

At about this time it began to be rumored that Mr. Peters would soon be chosen as a member of President Taylor's cabinet, every one expecting to see the portfolio of the Treasury offered him in the near future. Mr. Jacob Barker, of New Orleans, was at that time Mr. Peters' most dangerous adversary for political preferment, both being rated as the financial colossi of the city. *The Delta*, of December 4, 1848, draws a parallel between those two eminent men. Mr. Barker is said to be "a banker and broker and builder, having a finger in every branch of business, all of which he superintends personally, attending to many and various matters all at one time. If he were Secretary of the Treasury, there would be no use of auditors or clerks in that department. He would attend to the whole business himself, even to the splitting up of the wood for the fire, and President Taylor would have to keep a sharp lookout, lest Mr. Barker should undertake to perform likewise the duties of the Presidency." *The Delta*, on the other hand, describes Mr. Peters as the "only man who had the combined ability to administer the Treasury Department and resist Mr. Barker at the same time." Mr. Peters' chief reliance is said to be "in his skill and experience, backed by powerful appliances and auxiliaries." He is represented as being "conciliatory, sly and circumspect, and as a man who husbands his means and never works without an object. He is said to be a student and reader of works of political economy, and to be conservative, skeptical and aristocratic." His only hobby, according to *The Delta*, is to be perpetually suggesting at every meeting of the City Council the issuance of new bonds for public improvements. In this parallel, Mr. Peters certainly gets the better of his opponent.

Be that as it may, Mr. Peters was not appointed to the expected position but instead notified by telegraph, on March 21, 1849, that President Taylor had appointed him

Collector of Customs for New Orleans, a post which he filled without confirmation of the Senate, until September 27, 1850, when the appointment was rejected by the Senate on account of Mr. Peters' large banking interests. President Taylor, Mr. Peters' staunch friend, had died previously to this, is the second year of his term of office, on July 9, 1850. It is interesting to state that even at that early day, public officials were as much pestered by office-seekers as in these 20th century days. Mr. Peters relates that six days after his appointment to the collectorship, he had already received 400 applications for positions under him.

It was on February 5, 1849, that Mr. Peters defeated Gen. J. B. B. Vignie, a popular Creole gentleman, as President of the Louisiana State Bank, which stood at the corner of Conti and Royal. It was a decisive victory as the stockholders were equally divided between the old and new population. Mr. Peters polled 1789 votes to Gen. Vignie's 1305. This position Mr. Peters held up to three or four years before his death.

When the corner-stone of the new Custom House was laid on February 22, 1849, Mr. Peters, who had fathered the project, took a prominent part in the ceremonies.

Ex-President Polk paid this city a visit on March 21, 1849, and was dined and feasted by Mr. Peters and his fellow aldermen of New Orleans.

In 1850 there was a building boom in that section of the Second Municipality lying between Baronne and Carondelet streets, and we find Mr. Peters erecting in July of that year, four three-story brick stores on Poydras street between Baronne and Penn streets, which are still standing today. He had purchased the ground, where stood at the time the Olympic Theatre, for the sum of \$26,100. The theatre was demolished by Mr. Peters, and the present buildings were erected by James Gallier and Turpin, leading architects of the time.

Though Mr. Peters was still a young man, the vigorous and active life he had been living began to tell on his iron

constitution, and we find him on May 14, 1850, sending his resignation as alderman of the Second Municipality. Henceforth, he was to virtually retire from the political arena and was to see the Whigs that he had lately led to so glorious a victory, go down to defeat in the Presidential election of November 2, 1852, when Franklin Pierce, a Democrat, was to ascend the Presidential chair. However, Mr. Peters had the satisfaction to see the Whigs carry the day on March 22, 1852, in the first election of the Consolidated Three Municipalities of New Orleans and the City of Lafayette, which were henceforth to form but one city under one government. In that election the Whigs elected the Mayor, Treasurer, Comptroller, Surveyor, Street Commissioner, one of the four Recorders, a majority of the aldermen, and a large majority of the assistant aldermen.

Though Mr. Peters had now retired from public life, he had lost nevertheless, none of his pristine popularity, and still ranked high in the esteem of the best citizens of the city. The Verandah Hotel, now occupied by the Association of Commerce, witnessed another of his triumphs when on May 24, 1850, an elegant dinner was tendered him therein by one hundred of the most influential men of New Orleans. In the following year, on January 18th, the St. Charles Hotel, which Mr. Peters had been so instrumental in building, fell a prey to the fire fiend, and with it, Dr. Clapp's church, at the corner of Poydras and Carondelet streets, and many other buildings were totally destroyed. Mr. Peters' home stood near by, and was for a while in great danger of being consumed, as a strong wind that was blowing at the time, drove showers of sparks on its roofs and balconies.

It was on November 26, 1851, that Mr. Peters decided to leave that busy city which he had so helped to build and embellish, and to seek, with his family, a quiet retreat in the suburbs, where he could spend his remaining days in peace. He purchased a place in Boulogny, where the Sacred Heart Convent on St. Charles Avenue now stands, and

naming it "Buena Vista" started at once to convert it into an earthly paradise.

Providence kept an ever watchful eye on Mr. Peters, and as it had shielded him from the cholera and the yellow fever and had twice before protected him from assassination in 1830, when he was Chairman of the City Council's Finance Committee, so was it to safeguard him on July 5, 1852, from an equally disastrous end. On that day, at three o'clock in the morning, Mr. Peters and his son-in-law, Mr. Jules A. Blanc, who had left Bay St. Louis the day before on the high pressure boat "St. James," were suddenly awakened from their slumbers by a deafening noise. One of the St. James' boilers had burst, and 25 or 30 persons, among whom the well-known Judge Isaac T. Preston, had been killed outright by the explosion. Mr. Peters escaped without a scratch, though his son-in-law was slightly injured. They and the other survivors were rescued from their perilous position by the steamer "California," and five days later, Mr. Peters presented to Captain H. P. Ensign, of the California, a gold watch as a token of his gratitude.

When the Hon. John J. Crittenden, the distinguished American statesman and senator, visited New Orleans in 1853, he was a guest of Mr. Peters, who entertained at a dinner in his honor on March 13th of the same year.

In 1853 Mr. Peters and his youngest son traveled extensively in Europe, leaving New Orleans on June 7th for Mobile, where they were to embark on the S. S. "Black Warrior," for the Continent via New York. Landing from the steamship "Arctic" in Liverpool, on June 25, 1853, Mr. Peters visited England, France, Switzerland, Germany and Italy, adding as he went along to his vast storehouse of knowledge and enjoying a much-needed rest. He returned to his beloved city on November 11, 1853, feeling much refreshed and improved by his pleasant travels and long sea voyage.

But as Life is a stage and grim Death is its inevitable curtain-ringer, so was that man, beloved by an united city,

to play his part of the stage of Life, enjoy the plaudits of the multitude, and pass gently from view and to the Great Beyond, as quietly and peacefully as the pale blue smoke ascends to the azured skies.

The first alarming symptoms of illness manifested themselves in April, 1854, when Mr. Peters had a serious attack of asthma. Several recurrences occurred, and other complications set in. Dissolution of the blood and paralysis, as well as heart trouble added to his woes. He was bled and doctored by the best medical men of the city, but all to no avail. Drs. Rouanat, Stone, Wedderstrandt and Picton were in constant attendance, striving their utmost to alleviate the great sufferings which he bore unflinchingly and with true Christian fortitude. A few days before his death, Mr. Peters requested to be placed in an invalid's chair and brought out in the sunshine and among the flowers of his Boulogny garden. It was August and nature was at her best, as the dying man was slowly wheeled along the shady and perfume-laden by-paths of his beloved demense. What mental anguish must have been his as he gazed at the evidences of pulsating life all around him and realized that he was so soon to leave a world where he had done so much good, ere his race was run. But a merciful God was soon to put an end to his earthly ailments and open for him the shining gates of a better world.

On the morning of August 11, 1855, Mr. Peters began to sink rapidly. He realized his approaching dissolution and tried to comfort his afflicted wife and sorrowing children who had gathered at his bedside. He stated that he was not afraid to die and was prepared to meet his Maker, but regretted to leave his loved ones behind. He gradually lost consciousness, and at 4 o'clock p. m., his soul was about to take its flight. He opened his eyes, gazed about the room, recognized his family, and without uttering a word, quietly breathed his last.

The sorrow over Mr. Peters demise was universal. New Orleans, in his death, had suffered a terrible loss, and great

was the concourse of friends and admirers that pressed forward to pay the last sad respects to his hallowed memory. His funeral was one of the largest ever held in New Orleans. The officiating clergymen were Bishop Leonidas Polk, and the Revs. Laycock and Goodrich. His pall bearers had been chosen among his most intimate friends and were Messrs. Christian Roselius, John U. La Villebeuvre, Dr. Picton and Mr. C. C. Collins.

Soon the funeral cortege had wended its way to the quiet precinct of Washington cemetery. The grave opened to receive its tribute, and shortly thereafter, the Angel of Death had written the word *finis* on one of New Orleans' most notable and distinguished characters.



WALT WHITMAN IN NEW ORLEANS.

(Read Before the Louisiana Historical Association at New Orleans on April 15, 1914, by William Kernan Dart.)

Literary America is today building up what will hereafter be known as the period of Whitman worship. This pathfinder of a new type of versification, and the prophet of progressive ideals of life and of politics is today the subject both of constant study, of constant criticism, and of constant admiration. The ramifications of his works, of his thoughts, and of his habits of living are discussed everywhere, and though his life in New Orleans was of but short duration, still its crumbs are eagerly devoured by the proselyte of Whitman.

Of the early days of Walt Whitman, little is known, and more especially is this true of his vagabond life. Concerning some of his adventures he was deliberately silent; his life during these obscure periods will doubtless never be laid bare to public scrutiny; and it will be in as great a mist as is Shakespeare's youthful career. The best one can do to complete the patch-work of his journeyman days is to glean through the scattered writings that came from his pen as he wandered from city to city and from newspaper to newspaper. Perhaps it is better that it should be so, for the youthful escapades of men of Whitman's type are likely to have too great a Rabelaisian spice to enrich idealistic literature. To see a genius without his halo, when the fire of passion is still active, is very often to be given a vision with a suggestion of a lack of respectability and an inattention to that code of morals by which the average man is governed. Whitman has himself confessed that his adolescent days were not such as should serve as a model to young men, and vague rumors have floated down to our generation of his rather accentuated fondness for the other sex. "My life," he wrote Symonds, "young manhood, times South, etc., have been jolly bodily, and doubtless open to criticism. Tho' unmarried, I have had six children—two

are dead—one living. Southern grandchild, fine boy, writes to me occasionally—circumstances (connected with their fortune and benefit) have separated me from intimate relations.”

This reference, published after his death, has given rise to a variety of speculation concerning his Southern life and more especially about his life in New Orleans. But his career in the South will forever be shadowed in obscurity. His stay in New Orleans was brief, dating from March to June, 1848, and whatever intimacies he contracted with men and women while there will always be unknown. If there was a child, assuming there was but one, unless his disposition was that of an animal—an insinuation likely to be resented by his followers—it was born after his departure. Its name and its mother's name are unknown to the people of New Orleans. The contemporary directories of New Orleans show no one named Whitman for any of the years subsequent to and long after Whitman's departure. The old inhabitants of the city, and its veteran journalists are altogether ignorant of any reminiscences connected with Whitman. There is, nevertheless, sufficient extraneous evidence to furnish a skeleton of his life in New Orleans, and to give an outline of his contributions to the newspaper of whose staff he was a member, as well as to give a bare sketch of his life from the day he left New York to his departure to the North.

The manner in which he happened to go to New Orleans is best described in his own language. As the result of political and managerial disagreements he had left the Brooklyn *Eagle* and was casting about for a new berth. “Being out of a job, I was offered impromptu (it happened between the acts one night in the lobby of the old Broadway Theatre, near Pearl street, New York City), a good chance to go down to New Orleans on the staff of the *Crescent*, a daily to be started there with plenty of capital behind it, in opposition to the *Picayune*. One of the owners, Mr. McClure, who was north buying material, met me walk-

ing in the lobby, and though that was our first acquaintance, after fifteen minutes talk (and a drink) we made a formal bargain, and Mr. McClure paid me \$200 down to bind the contract and bear my expenses to New Orleans. I started two days afterwards; had a leisurely good time, as the paper wasn't to be out in three or four weeks. I enjoyed my journey and Louisiana venture very much."

With him went his brother Jeff, and the voyage is usually described by his biographers as "by way of Pennsylvania and Virginia, crossing the Alleghanies, and taking a steamer down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers" (Perry, *Life of Whitman*, p. 42). In the early issues of the *Crescent* there are articles entitled "Excerpts from a Traveller's Note Book," which depict a journey similar to the course taken by the Whitmans.. They are unsigned, but they are written in the jerky prose style common to nearly all of Whitman's uninspired works, and they discuss in a general way things that were of interest to Whitman—the doings of humanity, the odds and ends who traverse the world, and the occasional incidents of steamboat life. The first issue of the *Crescent* was published March 6, 1848, and the only vessel to arrive in the harbor of New Orleans from Wheeling was the *St. Cloud*, which is entered among the newspaper steamboat arrivals on February 26, 1848. It is a fair presumption that this boat brought the two Whitmans to New Orleans, for the records do not show any other entries from the Alleghany country for either a month previous or a month later than the coming of the *St. Cloud*. "Having crossed the Alleghanies during Saturday night, and spent the ensuing day in weary stages from Uniontown onwards, we arrived at Wheeling a little after 10 o'clock on Sunday night, and went on board the steamer *St. Cloud*, a freight and packet boat, lying at the wharf there with the steam all up and ultimately bound for New Orleans." (*The Crescent*, Friday, March 10, 1848). He describes the Ohio River in no complimentary terms: "Like as in many other matters, people who travel on the Ohio (that most beautiful of

words) for the first time will stand a chance of being disappointed. In poetry and romance, these rivers are talked of as though they were cleanly streams; but it is astonishing what a difference is made by the simple fact that they are always excessively muddy—mud, indeed, being the prevailing character both afloat and ashore. This, when one thinks of it, is not only reasonable enough, but unavoidable in the very circumstance of the case. Yet, it destroys at once the principal beauty of the rivers. There is no romance in a mass of yellowish brown liquid.. It is marvellous, though, how easily a traveller gets to drinking it and washing with it. What an india-rubber principle there is, after all, in humanity.”

He pictures the inconvenience of river travel, passenger traffic being considered secondary to that of freight, and he is amused at the miscellaneous cargo taken aboard, which included pork, lead, coffee, leather, groceries, dry goods, agricultural implements, live stock, and an infinity of other commodities. An early and a good breakfast was had, the river banks were covered with produce, and the stopping places were ever thronged with all sorts and conditions of idlers. The falls of the Ohio below Louisville were crossed just as the Lachine Rapids in the St. Lawrence are crossed today by tourist steamers and the incident was an interesting one to Whitman, giving rise in his mind to the theory of a possible connecting canal. The country from Louisville down is passed with the reflection that it is a long, monotonous stretch. He prophesied no great future for Cairo, Ill., a guess which the passing years have verified. “Cairo, at the junction of the Mississippi, pointed our passage into the great Father of Waters. Immense sums of money have been spent to make Cairo something like what a place with such a name ought to be. But with the exception of its position, which is unrivalled for business purposes, everything about it seems unfortunate. The point on which it is situated is low, and liable to be overflowed at every high flood. Besides, it is unwholesomely wet, at the best. It is doubtful

whether Cairo will ever be any 'great shakes,' except in the way of ague."

Cincinnati is mentioned as a dirty little city, with business prospering, and is dismissed with the further comment that "with New York and New Orleans, Cincinnati undoubtedly makes the *trio* of business places in the republic—though Philadelphia must not be forgotten either." Louisville "has a *substantial* look to him who walks through it for the first time" and has many noble and hospitable citizens, whose family circles make a happy time for him who gets on visiting terms with them."

These fragments tell us probably nearly all we shall ever know of Whitman's voyage to New Orleans. The Middle and the South West was unfolding its magnificence to his eye, and though the impression was that of a crude, undeveloped nation, to one of his shrewd perception the future prosperity was evident.

Whitman did not reside in New Orleans proper, but in a suburb, the city of Lafayette, which has, however, been long since consolidated with New Orleans. With whom he lived and in what portion of the town it is impossible now to tell, but from a remark in one of his contributions to the *Crescent* his quarters were small, though ample for one of his roving disposition, for he was a self-confessed loungeur, and apparently kept late hours. What little data there is to be found on that subject is to be found in a *Crescent* article narrating a walk about town.

On March 6, 1848, a Monday, No. One of the *Crescent* presented itself as a contestant in the field of New Orleans newspapers. It was published by the firm of Hayes & McClure at No. 95 St. Charles street at a subscription price of eight dollars a year or fifteen cents a week. It was neither better nor worse than the usual newspaper of that time, being a large four-sheet 8vo. paper, printed in clear type and managed in the leisurely fashion of the average village journal of our age. Its contents were mainly local, containing here and there a belated European, Central

American, or Northern news dispatch. Its policies were Democratic, and its editorials were characterized by an intense American spirit. Throughout its early issues are commonplace commentaries on the genius of America, striking once in a while a philosophic key note. Many of these articles were signed with the initial "W" and their composition were mainly careless, hasty and slovenly.

Whitman's work upon the *Crescent* staff was of the most general sort. One day he would philosophise upon the woes of the petty criminals of the Recorders' Courts; then he would appear among the editorial gods and blazon forth with a calm, self-satisfied, bombastic disquisition upon the Republic and its future. Slavery seems to have received little consideration from his pen. It was rather the characters about town, the levee workers, the vagrants, and the under scum that entertained him.

This first issue of the *Crescent* contained a metrical contribution from Whitman. It was a piece of verse later published in his *Collected Works* in a different shape under the title "Sailing the Mississippi at Midnight." In the second page of the first issue, signed with the initials "W. W.", it appeared as "The Mississippi at Midnight." Because of the fact that he later entirely revised it, the six short stanzas are here transcribed in full:

How solemn! sweeping this dense black tide—
No friendly lights i' the heavens o'er us;
A murky darkness on either side,
And kindred darkness all before us!

Now, drawn nearer the shelving rim,
Weird-like shadows suddenly rise;
Shapes of mist and phantoms dim
Baffle the gazer's straining eyes.

River fiends, with malignant faces!
Wild and wide their arms are thrown,

As if to clutch in fatal embraces
Him who sails their realms upon.

Then, by the trick of our own swift motion,
Straight, tall giants, an army vast,
Rank by rank, like the waves of ocean
On the shores march stilly past.

How solemn! the river a trailing pall,
Which takes but never again gives back;
And moonless and starless the heaven's arch'd wall;
Responding an equal black!

Oh, tireless waters! like life's quick dream,
Onward and onward every hurrying—
Like Death in this midnight hour you seem,
Life in your chill drops speedily burying!

In his "Collect" this piece was almost completely transformed, leaving but a faint likeness of its original self. In no other issues of the paper did his muse again come forth in verse, and infinitely superior rhyme constantly appeared from the hands of other writers whose identity is now lost with those of the legions of other hackwriters who flit across the stage and away into the mist. The production can hardly be classed as even fair verse, and were Whitman not the inventor of the prose poem his fame, had he continued to write verse such as this, would rest upon foundations of sand. The distinctive style of "Leaves of Grass" is here barely discernible, and his later inspiration had not yet discovered itself.

From time to time the *Crescent* contained editorials of a political and popular character signed "W." A faith in the future of young America and a belief in the eternal solidarity of the Union was the leading thought of all his editorials. The institution of slavery had touched no pitying chord in his soul while he lived in the midst of the system

abhorred by Garrison, if one is to judge by his New Orleans editorial utterances. A close examination of the columns of the *Crescent* during his connection with it fails to reveal any suggestion of dissatisfaction or discontent with the slave holding habit in the South. If Whitman was inculcated with the Abolitionist spirit at thirty, his writings of the day do not evidence it.

The hotel rotundas and the assemblage that gathered therein possessed a peculiar fascination to him. The world in all its aspects was there represented and this was emphasized in New Orleans to a greater degree because of its situation and because of the constant entrance and exit of men and women of all nationalities going to and coming from the North or West and the Spanish possessions. The dandy who lounged about the barroom, idling away his days and living that he might mirror the latest styles, is pictured in humorous contempt. The gentleman who did everything gracefully, from running his horse-flesh during the racing season and to resenting an insult in strict accordance with the Code was also an object of Whitman's ridicule. "Their conversational powers," he said, "are generally devoted to descriptions of duels, awful conflicts by sea and land, and stories of how bluff old Major So-and-So gave a terrible flogging to Col. This-and-That more than twenty years ago." The theatrical manager who resembled a learned physician, but whose mental powers are limited to commonplaces, is not highly commended by Whitman to his readers. "A hickory stick and a hickory soul—both are stern and stalwart—both are firm and honest. Commend us to the old grey-haired farmer, whose withered fingers grasp with an iron clutch his trusty cane. Who would believe it? The old man is the father of a Senator. He subscribes to the *Union* and the *National Intelligencer* and many a time his eyes are brightened with the 'silver tears of iron,' when he hears the name of his first-born mentioned. The cultivation of potatoes and turnips—the thrashing of the little stock of wheat, and the sale of the little field of corn brought money

to send the son to college. Intense energy, application to study, determination and industry made the farmer's son a shining light among his fellows. The good old farmer! his son discusses questions of the greatest importance at Washington—tells Robert Peel and John Russell they are entirely wrong—cautions Louis Phillipe against some European policy, and requests Prince Matternich to be upon his guard lest he should fail in his diplomatic conclusions! Turnip and talent—potatoes and politics—pumpkins (some) and professions.” For him only has Whitman praise.

Perhaps Whitman intended to describe himself in the following passage, which surely suggests many of his earlier and later idiosyncracies. “That young man with the bandy legs, who is standing with his back to the stove, has just arrived from New York. He prides himself upon the neatness of the tie of his crimson neckcloth, and professes to be a connoisseur in everything relating to peanuts. When he puffs the smoke of a remarkably bad cigar directly underneath your nostrils, he will discourse most learnedly about the classical performances in the Chatham Theater, and swear by some heathen god or goddess, that ‘Kirby was one of ‘em, and no mistake.’ This one of the ‘b’hoys of the Bowery.’ He strenuously contends that Mr. N. P. Willis is a humbug—that Mike Walsh is a ‘hoss,’ and that the Brigadier ‘ain’t no where.’ The great probability is that the ‘b’hoy’ in question never saw either of the gentlemen he attempts to lampoon. The vista of his imagination certainly does not extend beyond Baton Rouge.” The portrayal may be an exaggerated one, but to a certain respect it is the Whitman that his contemporaries have handed down to posterity, and it is a curious reflection from Whitman’s own glass.

In a subsequent issue there is a more serious dissertation upon “Hero Presidents.” “But while we have none of those fears by which others are actuated when lamenting the tendency of the American people to elevate military chieftains to the Presidency, we sincerely depreciate the effort

to raise any man to that high office merely because he has shown skill in manoeuvring men, horses and cannon." "But," he continues, "no soldier President can ever use the Chief Magistracy as an instrument of usurpation. The Constitution safeguards the people in spite of its Executive, and though he expressed a regret that the people should make the White House a 'Pension Palace' for victorious generals, he believed that no one man could ever obtain a permanent hold upon the office. The American people were of a different breed and would not tolerate any assumption of power." This was a typical Whitman editorial, confident in the ultimate good judgment of the people at large, and certain that the free ballot was a more powerful weapon in the United States than the manifold legions of all soldiers.

The theatrical notes which were constantly appearing during Whitman's stay became sporadic at his departure and degenerated into mere notices in the course of a month later. A Mrs. Hunt was the attraction one week at the St. Charles Theater in New Orleans. At the Park Theatre in New York he said, "there was not one (character) that she did not impart life and grace to. No flagging, no want of vivacity, is ever observed in her word or act upon the stage." Edwin Forrest was "the highest, brightest star in the dramatic firmament of America," and at his farewell performance in the city Whitman said "his eyes were moist with the tears of parting friendship."

There is a note in Whitman's reminiscent writings wherein he mentions having seen General Zachary Taylor in New Orleans. A paragraph in the *Crescent* of May 9, 1848, describes this event. "Quite a sensation was created in the St. Charles Theatre last night by the appearance of Maj. Gens. Taylor and Pillow, with some other officers of note, in the dress circle. It was just as the model artists on the stage were in the midst of their tableau of Circassian Slaves, that the hero of Buena Vista and his companions entered the house. In the dim light, the gas being

turned off to give effect to the performance, the old General's entrance was not noticed by the audience. When the lights shown out again, however, the most vociferous cheering announced that the people recognized him. The orchestra played 'The Star Spangled Banner' and 'Hail Columbia' and the next tableau was one purposely complimentary to Gen. Taylor. It was received with loud cheering and plaudits." The impression was a permanent one and Whitman always remembered the "jovial, rather stout, plain man, with a wrinkled and dark yellow face."

John Jacob Astor was one of Whitman's "Broadway Sights" in New York. During his visit to New Orleans Astor died, and Whitman gave vent to a few reflections in the issue of April 17, 1848, under the caption "Death of Mr. Astor of New York." The language describing Astor in his prose works is but a paraphrase of this *Crescent* news note. "At a very advanced age this well-known personage has at length left that earth on which he had such large possessions. 'The rich man also died.' It were a trite moral to draw—to go over the oft-said maxims about the vanity of wealth, and its inability to wrestle with death; and we forbear. Wealth is good enough; but unfortunately people don't one quarter of the time enjoy it after it comes to them."

"For some years past, Mr. Astor has been living in a two-story brick house in Broadway, opposite the old site of Niblo's garden. The laconic door-plate, 'Mr. Astor,' informed persons of the name of the occupant. Somehow, this dwelling always had a cold, cheerless, naked, and uninviting appearance; there were no shutters to the prodigious windows, nor were pleasant faces ever seen at the panes—nor was the warm aspect of family comforts and endearments ever known there. Ugh! the house gave one something of a chill, when passing it, even in summer.

"We remember seeing Mr. Astor two winters since, when going down Broadway by this house. A couple of servants were assisting him across the pavement to a sleigh which

was drawn up by the curb-stone. The old gentleman's head seemed bent completely down with age and sickness; he was muffled in furs, and entirely unable to help himself. The very groom, a hearty young Irishman, with perhaps not two dollars in his pocket, looked with pity upon the great millionaire! Certainly no man of the crowds that hurried along that busy promenade would have accepted the rich capitalist's wealth, tied to the condition of 'being in his shoes.' "

"Some curiosity has long been felt in the North to know the disposition of Mr. Astor's immense wealth. It has been rumored that a benevolent bequest has been made of several hundred thousand dollars; that literary institutions have been founded, and so on. We shall soon learn whether there is any truth in these stories. Fitz-Green Halleck, the poet, has for some years been the confidential clerk of Mr. Astor, and will doubtless receive a handsome legacy. One of the sons of Mr. Astor is a confirmed lunatic, and is taken care of in a house built expressly for him by his father, in New York. He has servants, medical attendance, etc. The domestic affairs of Mr. Astor were never happy, or, at least, have not been so for some years."

Surely this was an ungenerous eulogy of a dead man, if all that was said in this obituary were gospel. Whitman may not have been ranked as an admirer of the dead man, but the least he could have done would have been to permit the back-stairs gossip to die with the old millionaire.

All-Fools' Day inspired an essay on "Who Shall Wear the Motley," written in a semi-humorous vein. "The furious in temper, scattering in one moment what years cannot recall; the squanderer, whose money leaves no sign of good done to him; the scowler, who looks ever on the dark side of humanity; the effeminate man who develops not the uses of his manhood (wouldn't this include old batchelors?); the mere voluptuary, that gets to think women all frailness, and that debars himself from domestic happiness, the purest bliss on earth; the glutton, the idler.

the sneak, the bully, the fop—the man who don't take a newspaper (or, taking it, don't promptly pay for it)—the politician, that thinks all people wrong who don't stand on his narrow platform—Ah! give a plentiful supply of motley to them all, for they could truly wear it.”

A sympathetic description of the morning docket of the police court enlivened one issue of the *Crescent*. “Even as one step is above or below the other, so sink we down or rise in the estimation of the public. Life has its steps—its days are but the rounds upon the ladder, like that seen by Jacob—which must carry the true and just to happiness and heaven.” The old drunkard who had sunk to the depths excited Whitman's sorrow, and the faded beauty descended to the vilest degradation, a police court, found a friendly pen in the hands of the journeyman journalist.

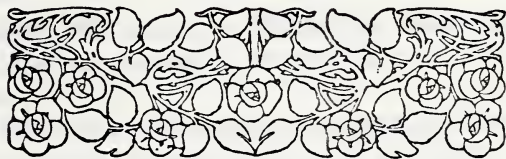
It was his delight, his biographers inform us, to wander about the levees and to mingle among the crowds of the old French Market in New Orleans. In one of the numbers of the *Crescent* he relates a tramp about town. “Got up early from my bed and my little room near Lafayette. The sun had scarcely risen, and every object seemed lazy and idle. On some German ships moored at the levee, I saw about a dozen sailors with bare legs, scouring the decks. They seemed to be as happy as lords, although their wages are not more than six dollars a month. Saw a negro throw a large stone at the head of his mule, because it would not pull an empty dray—wished I owned the negro—wouldn't treat him as he treated the mule, but make him a present of a cow-skin, and make him whip himself. Saw a poor longshoreman lying down on a bench; had on a red shirt and blue cottonade pantaloons; coarse brogans, but no stockings. He had spent all his money in a tippler's shop the night previous for grog, and when his last pica-yune was discovered to be gone, he was kicked out of the house. Thought there were some landlords who deserved to be bastinadoed. Saw a shipping master riding at full speed upon a small pony. He would have been willing

to have freighted every ship in port if he could have been 'elected.' Saw him go on board a vessel and come off again, with, in all probability, a flea in his ear. He kicked the pony in its sides, and after dismounting went to the nearest grog-shop. How he kept 'his spirits *up* by pouring spirits *down*.' He didn't get the freight of that ship. The sun had just showed his golden face above the grey clouds of the horizon, and bathes with lustre the distant scenery. Now come the bustle and business of the day. Shopkeepers are opening their stores; stevedores are hurrying on board their respective ships. Those stevedores! They are for the most part honest men, and physically speaking, work harder than any other class of the community. Many of them have little tin kettles on their arms which contain their simple dinner repast. When their work is over they get to their 'bones,' and then separate for their different homes to woo 'tired nature's sweet restorer'—sleep; or mayhap to spend their day's earning in a grog-shop. There's a big red-faced man walking hastily up the levee. He's a custom's officer, and is hurrying on board his vessel for fear that if not there by sunrise, the captain may report him to the collector. Went into St. Mary's market; saw a man, a good old man in a blue jacket and cottonade pantaloons, with a long stick of sugar cane in his hands. Wondered who he was, and much surprised to find he was a lawyer of some repute. At the lower end of the market there was a woman with a basket of live crabs at her feet. Although she loved money she had no particular affection for a press from the claws of the ungainly creatures which she handled with a pair of iron tongs. Saw the 'cat-fish man,' who declared that his fish were just caught, and were as tender as a piece of lamb. Went up the Market and saw rounds of beef, haunches of venison and legs of mutton, that would have made a disciple of Graham forswear his hermit-like appetite. Came down town—shops all open—and heard two boys calling out the names of the different papers they had for sale. These boys are 'cute' as foxes

and as industrious as ants. Some of them who now cry out 'ere's ye—, here's the—, here's the—,' may in time be sent to Congress. Went down town further—all was business and activity—the clerks were placing boxes on the pavements—the persons employed in fancy stores were bedecking their windows with their gaudiest goods, and the savory smell of fried ham, broiled beef steaks, with onions, etc., stole forth from the half unshut doors of every restaurant. Passed down Conti street and looked at the steamboat wharf. It was almost lined with steamboats; some were puffing up steam and throwing up to the sky huge columns of blackened smoke—some were lying idle, and others discharging sugar, molasses, cotton and everything else that is produced in the great Valley of the Mississippi. Came to the conclusion that New Orleans was a great place and *no mistake*. Went still further down—visited the markets and saw that every luxury given to sinful man by sea and land, from a shrimp to a small potato, were there to be purchased. Came home again and took breakfast—tea, a radish, piece of dry toast, and an egg—read one of the morning papers, and then went about my business."

The slight suggestion we have of Whitman's love affairs in New Orleans is a scarcely serious account of his visit to a ball. On a Saturday night he and some choice companions went to a ball in Lafayette. Gazing about the dancing room he chose a most charming woman for a partner. She seemed an ideal one for a wife, and after a few muttered introductions he devoted his attentions to her for the remainder of the night. The courtship progressed splendidly, only to reach the summit of an anti-climax. "Just at this moment where, in any other place I would be on my knees, the gentleman who introduced me came up to us and said, '*wife*, ain't it time to go home?' 'Yes, *my dear*,' she responded. So taking his arm, casting a peculiar kind of look at me, and bidding me good night, they left me like a motionless statue on the floor. I wish them both happiness, altho' I am the sufferer by it."

This account was published in the issue of May 18, 1848. On Friday, the 26th, Whitman and his brother were bound Northward on the *Pride of the West*, which left on its monthly trip that day at four o'clock. His stay had lasted exactly three months and was rather a pleasant sojourn to him than one of permanent value to the world. His literature was still in its elemental stage, and his membership of the *Crescent* staff was productive of little good save to serve as a basis for an insight into his life at that time. While some of his pet abominations such as the duel, cruelty to animals, and a kindred feeling for the working man were refected in his labors on the paper, as a whole an investigation of his New Orleans career disappoints those who seek to discover innermost habits of his young manhood. His prose versification was not then even in a crude state, and the style of his prose was careless and hardly valuable in thought. Yet as a matter of curiosity and as a matter of being able to link together the broken chain of his antebellum career the labor spent upon it is not wasted. It merely shows the early formation of his mind and the gradual shaping out of the more pronounced ideas of his later days.



"THE QUAKER AND THE CREOLE."

(By George Fox Martin, A.M. University of Pennsylvania,
Member of Louisiana Historical Society.)

Last winter your lecturer (spare his blushes at such a dignified term for a talker of his sort) was told by Miss Kate McCall, when he spoke of visiting the Cabildo, to find the Librarian of Museum and Society, Miss Freret. He did. Was introduced instantly to Father Biever, Prof. Fortier, Mr. Thompson, later to Mr. Hart, Mr. Glenk, Mr. Dymond, Judge Renshaw, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Cusachs. He was made to feel at home immediately, and given many, many happy hours in the Museum and in the meetings of Historical Society. That Society is an eager conservator of old curios, among other rarities the nice use of language and customs French and English. He was not surprised (strange as it may seem) when Messrs. Cusachs and Glenk suggested his talking to you to-night. He was approached as one of the *home* folk honoured to be the understudy of a great Creole teacher, Prof. Fortier, alas awfully ill when this was written and since gone to his reward. "Emigravit (be) the inscription on the tombstone where he lies 'Dead he is not, but departed, For the artist never dies' (Long-fellow.) It may cheer his many, many friends to know that the stranger, the speaker, the subordinate teacher, he treated so cheerfully, so kindly, proudly and reverently does his possible.

The speaker will make no Fortierlike claim to deep and accurate historical research or exposition. Just grateful impressions.

To read Miss Grace King had been recommended by Miss McCall and read she appreciatively and gratefully was; and so, from Carrollton to the Barracks, and from Algiers to Spanish Fort a series of jaunts had filled the mind with appreciation of Creole ideas. When he went back to his beloved birthplace and life long home, Philadelphia, he stayed for some time in the old quarter of the town.

As the Cabildo section is a bit of old Creole New Orleans, so the Penna. Hospital with Christ Church, Independence Hall and S. Joseph's to the North and S. Peter's and old Swedes to the South is a bit of old Quaker Philadelphia. Particularly is this true of the South Front of Pa. Hospital, 8th and 9th on Pine. There are Penn's statue and the Lafayette gate.

Penn and Louis XIV gave their names to states that have stood respectively for toleration and dominion. The idea of toleration has spread over the world. The dominion of Louisiana has affected the whole Mississippi Valley and the great West. This Louisiana, the hinge on which turned the acquisition of the Mississippi region was the scene of the gay, graceful, heroic working, play and waiting of the Creole until in 1905 Carroll, Reed and Lazear (and Agramonte mentioned by Mr. Thompson) martyred themselves in Cuba that yellow fever be no more a menace in New Orleans. Pennsylvania was the scene of the waiting of the Quakers until the world accepted toleration. T'was like the inter-play of Central Government and States' rights. As the Irishman said of centripetal and centrifugal force "Where would this world be if it didn't go two ways at once?" Thank God for the Creole idea. Thank God for the Quaker idea. Big ideas. That make Expositions of big ideas possible. Quaker and Creole are both said to be slow. Slow to anger. Yes, when misunderstood. Quakers certainly think much of family. Ditto Creoles. Rightly. Note the Philadelphia tone from Burdette, "Miss May Cadwalader Rittenhouse of Philadelphia town, Awoke—as much as they ever do there and watched the snow come down. Well. I'm glad to-day is Christmas, you might have heard her say. For my family's one year *older* now than it was last Christmas Day."

As I said the Pennsylvania Hospital is an old bit of Quaker Philadelphia. It's running on a charter granted by George II in 1751, to care for the wounded, sick and lunatic. Its practical treatment of such is an object lesson

since 1751 to the up-to-date theories of Johns Hopkins and Harvard. Theories that however correct are impractical in that they can be applied to plutocrats and paupers only. What's the good of telling a patient to go to Arizona or New Mexico (old Mexico has too much lead treatment now to be healthy) when he has barely carfare to go to Atlantic City from Philadelphia or to Shreveport from New Orleans. "Go to Florida or die," said a great Philadelphia doctor: the patient said "If that were so I'd die." But he didn't. By the way, there is a great Creole doctor from New Orleans in College Hospital in Philadelphia now, Dr. La Place. Pennsylvania Hospital has treated all sorts and conditions of men. 'Tis said to have treated Gabriel when Evangeline found him in "that delightful land which is washed by the Delaware's waters, where the names of the streets still reach the names of the trees of the forest." Where the chimes of Christ Church on the North and the bells of old Swedes Church on the South wafted their sounds to the Acadian patient and nurse. Longfellow, who tells of it was graduated at Bowdoin College, named from a Frenchman. Faneuil Hall, Boston, ditto. New Rochelle, N. Y., from Rochelle, France. The Statue of Liberty, New York Harbor, came from France. You can't get away from the Creole or his cousins. And if Creole or anybody else is sick in Philadelphia, the Quaker'll try and be a good Samaritan, and will generally succeed at a reasonable rate.

The Quaker's not often fooled, though the darky fooled him. He didn't know him. But he's generally awake. He will not cheat you. No, not he. But sometimes he'll let you or get you to cheat yourself. And he's been known to give an evasive answer. A pirate tries to climb by a rope into a vessel. A Quaker passenger cuts the rope and says "Friend, thee may have that bit of rope." 'T'was doubtless in a Quaker environment that Bridget Murphy, the servant girl of Lawyer Brown gave an evasive answer to the intruder on the lawyer's privacy. "Ye told me to give an evasive answer. I just did that," and says he "Is Mr. Brown in? and

me, remembering that you said to give him an evasive answer, says I, Is your grandmother a monkey? and shuts the door in his face." But there is nothing evasive in the food the Quaker gives patients and helpers all in the Hospital. Philadelphia milk, butter, bread, beef, capons and bona fide pure Pennsylvania Dutch "smear case" and scrapple and apple butter and Simon-pure Philadelphia ice cream. Good! Scrapple is a sort of sausage or brawn or souse, and goes very finely with cold weather, 15 to 25 degrees Fahrenheit say, a temperature I like in Philadelphia, and I do not like it lower than 35 degrees in Louisiana.

Penn was a good drinker, though the modern Quaker idea is a bit influenced by prohibitionism. They take very good care of those who drink too much at the Hospital. Lafayette visited Hospital and the gate he used has been closed since he walked out of it. It's a shrine consecrated to memories of Gallic friendship. Up the Schuylkill river is Valley Forge, the scene of the announcement of the French Alliance in 1778. France had taught Frederick the Great and he had taught Steuben, who drilled Washington's Armies. He ran out of oaths and called on a French officer to help him swear at the recruits. Many of the Quaker men were not much good in Valley Forge times. Their scruples did not permit their giving money for gunpowder. But a shrewd one gave much money to Robert Morris, Washington's financier. "Friend Robert, thee may buy grains with this money." Robert bought grains of gunpowder. Washington's Army really whipped the British at Monmouth, a place where Washington very satisfactorily swore at Charles Lee, a British adventurer, who was false to him. Nearby, opposite Valley Forge, on the beautiful Schuylkill that runs between hills and meadows, was Audubon's Philadelphia home, and Gottschalk's kinsfold had a place near Audubon's.

Another French name associated with Pennsylvania Hospital is Girard's. A very practical man. The French are nothing if not practical. The charity he left for orphans, particularly orphans from Philadelphia and New Orleans,

has been managed with the utmost possible success in practical finance and economy. Girard forbade entrance to ministers of any kind, and yet they might have taught economy. A poor Protestant who had brought up eight children on \$800 a year remarked "I may not know much about finance, but I do about economy." Girard mistook his aversion from the personality of *some* ministers Latin or English, for antagonism to the profound principles of all ministers. But a minister can't go in the beautiful grounds and up to the beautiful Corinthian temple where Girard lies unless he disguises himself in drink or profanity or hypocrisy. Judge L., of Pennsylvania, was down in Philadelphia for his health. He dressed in black broadcloth with white frill and white tie and high hat. He tries to enter the gate of Girard College. Gateman tries to stop him. "You can't enter here." "The blank I can't." "Oh, walk right in." Speaking of hypocrites. A gentleman who dressed like Judge L. goes to a certain church. The parson asks questions and makes demands he does not expect to have answered. (I've often felt like rising to a point of order when ministers ask questions and one can't answer them.) "Show me the drunkard," calls the preacher. The old gentleman was too fond of julips. He rises and bows; a little while after the preacher calls: "Show me the hypocrite." Old gentleman leans over two pews and pokes Brother B. with his gold-headed cane. "Why don't you get up, Brother B? I did when it was my turn."

Girard's wife lies in the grounds of Pennsylvania Hospital, and near her across the way lies the prototype of Walter Scott's Rebecca in *Ivanhoe*. "Beating heart and burning brow, they are very quiet now." (Mrs. Browning). Girard was a brave practical help when yellow fever devastated the country around Philadelphia. Washington had in his time to go out to Germantown (then the country) to run away from it. With some faults Girard was a helpful man; a Frenchman in America, a benefactor to Philadelphia and New Orleans.

I seem to be coming back from my Philadelphia home to New Orleans, the scene of my long and happy visits lately, and to Baltimore, I think of Marie Mary (Henrietta Maria), daughter of Henry IV of France, from whom Maryland was named. There—a measure of toleration was begun by the Calverts. There is in Baltimore a modest tablet in a hospital to three very great benefactors of Havana, Panama and New Orleans. The tablets record the names of the men who, at the sacrifice of their own lives, learned how to make Havana, Panama, New Orleans free from danger of yellow fever. Somebody had told them in school that a mosquito carried and caused yellow fever. Very scientifically and very altruistically (and oh, how bravely) they had themselves bitten by yellow fever mosquitoes. More or less promptly these young men died as a result. Their names have not got into encyclopedias, but they made the Panama Canal a possibility. They made greater prosperity in New Orleans a possibility, and if there is any way the results of their skill and goodness can be shown in the Exposition, I contribute the idea as a big idea that the names of these martyrs of preventive medicine of these gallant soldiers, U. S. Army Surgeons, fighting diseases, be blazoned brightly before, during and after the Exposition. These names are Carroll, Reed and Lazear. To them has been added as connected with Baltimore (he died there)—that of Colonel or Major Gaillard (a French name), who died from overwork in Panama. That can be done anywhere. Real work is so hard. That's the reason the farms are being left. That's the reason so few men go into teaching. It may be the reason Prof. Fortier died before sixty. We overwork and underpay our real teachers. Agramonte's and other names may belong here.

As I go on towards New Orleans I next come to Washington, where I see the Creole spirit in the result of Major L'Enfant's planning of Washington. Florence, Italy, and Edinburgh, Scotland, are both beautiful cities, but they grew, I think. Washington and Paris, and now I believe

Berlin, were planned into beauty. Washington knew his limitations. He sent for some one who knew something about city planning. That's what a friend of mine at college said he would do when Gen. Ruff asked him how he'd build a military bridge. "Send for an expert." He was right. Folks don't go to college to learn how to build military bridges and things. That's the work for West Point and technical schools. They go to college to learn how to grasp the situation, and outside their own speciality to "send for some one that knows about it." Washington sent for Major L'Enfant, the Frenchman. *Et voila*, a city plan that may be the best in America or the world to be yet fully wrought out. But how beautiful Washington City is now in mass and detail. Washington, the man, was a great if an odd man. That was an odd statue that Crawford made, a semi-nude statue that used to be at the east front of the Capitol. The hand pointed aloft "There's where my soul is," the statue seemed to say. The other hand pointed toward Patent Office. "That's where my clothes are," the statue seemed to say. It would be impossible, however, to find anything to ridicule about Houdon's Washington, the original of which is in the State House, Richmond, Va., a building modeled from the Maison Carree at Nismes, France. Houdon, the Frenchman, has been lovingly written about by Hart and Biddle in the City of Brotherly Love, the Quaker City.

I have said that George Washington was an odd man, a phenomenon. He was a sturdy, sensible Briton, little educated in books, a country gentleman and a man of affairs. A fox hunting, hard riding, Madeira drinking, some times, profane man: a gentleman and church-goer withal. But, oh, how beloved by Lafayette, who sent him the Key to the Bastille that still hangs at Mt. Vernon. How grand and good and true and unselfish. Where would we have been without him? Burdette says:

"When Washington was President
As cold as any icicle,
He never on a railroad went,
And never road a bicycle.

His trousers ended at the knees
By wire he could send no dispatch.
He filled his lamp with whale-oil grease
And never had a match to scratch.

He read by no electric lamp,
Nor heard about the Yellowstone.
He never licked a postage stamp,
Nor talked through a telephone.

But in these days its come to pass,
All things are with such dashing done.
Wev' all these things, but then alas,
We seem to have no Washington."

Near the city of Washington are Alexandria and Mt. Vernon. Alexandria, called at first by its French settlers Lanphiers, Guyons, etc., Belle Haven. The Scotch Alexander, possibly a Jacobite, called it from his name with accent on antipenult. The Egyptian one should have accent on penult. And beyond Alexandria the Creole, General Beauregard, *nomen magnificum et amatissimum*, began the stopping of the Northerners who were "on to Richmond." It took our Philadelphian, University of Pennsylvania, a man of Quaker ancestry, George M. McClellan, a year to organize the Northern armies, so that Meade and Grant could in four years, and with at times four men to one, get to Richmond. It's still too near the events to do justice to the generalship of Beauregard and McClellan, the Creole and the fighting Quaker. Both, I predict, will be more and more appreciated as time goes on. And while neither of them was perfect, it can be said of each and it cannot be said

of *all* generals, Northern or Southern, that they were gentlemen.

"Who misses or who wins the prize,
Go fail or conquer as you can,
But if you fall or if you rise,
Be each, pray God, a gentleman."

(*Thackeray.*)

I've assumed that I was on my way back via Baltimore and Washington, to the land of the Creole, from the land of the Quaker, and thinking *par excellence* en route of Latin influence, the influence of Italian, Spaniard, Frenchman, Creole, if not technically Creole, and with quasi-dreamy thoughts of the Maryes, Maurys, Le Verts, Rochambaus and Jefferson's French inspired University of Virginia, I make my trip on train to Lake Pontchartrain in a sleeping or semi-sleepy condition. Near Marye's heights at Freidricksburg, Washington, when a boy, threw a silver coin across the Rappahanock River. "A pretty good throw," quoth a doubter. "But," said Evarts, "you know money went so much further in the old days."

The balmy breathing Pontchartrain has had bridges thrown over it by expending much money, and has had fine cement walls at West End. Why the beneficiaries of the Creole (and who in the Western Continent are not beneficiaries of the Creole?) the United States Government, the valley of the Mississippi and the Pacific Coast, shouldn't wall Lake Pontchartrain all round and cut a canal to Baton Rouge, that would have concrete banks and base, I don't know. T'was a prior duty, I think, to Panama and the Philippines "of two such uses, why forget the nobler and the manlier one?" (Byron). Humanity should begin at home. Is it unconstitutional? Is it not humanitarian? Jefferson and Napoleon were both a bit unconstitutional when Louisiana was *acquired*, but "what's the Constitution among friends?"

The gay heroism of the Creole in standing mosquitoes and yellow fever and the patient persistent fortitude of the Qua-

ker in quietly forcing toleration as a principle (Wallenstein in Thirty Years War did it as a policy) are beyond all praise.

I know my Quaker, and though I tell his foibles, I admire him. As you may have observed, I do not know my Creole as well. I feel his influence. I live in Philadelphia, and I visit in New Orleans. Not as a carpet-bagger, however. But I feel the Creole influence, and am very grateful for it.

The number of Quakers is not very great, even in Pennsylvania, and of Creoles is not very great even in Louisiana. But the Quaker spirit of toleration and the Creole spirit of graceful, gay, polite kindness and effectiveness, making the best of climate and of anything else are very great influences from Atlantic to Pacific, from Alaska to Florida. I read Miss Grace King delightedly and reverently. Oh, the gay heroism of the Creole who waited until 1905 for Carroll, Reed and Lazear! They were big ideas. "What's the matter," I said, "with blazoning their names in Exposition and all along the lines of the new trolley to Kenner?" The grand martyrs of modern Science. What's the matter with grouping the Creole heroes in statues around the Creole Cathedral, the Church of St. Louis, and the Creole Cabildo? What a list of Latins. Patriot priest, and patriot soldier, patriot statesman and patriot citizen and patriot-taxpayer. Gaily and bravely did the Creole live under French and Spanish King, the French Napoleon, Jeffersonian doctrinaire, hard-hitting Andrew Jackson, "who proved his doctrine orthodox by apostolic blows and knocks" (Butler), the pro and con experimentors in slavery, and the carpet-bagger. The Creole did much to live at all under his trials. Some one who stayed in Paris, 1789 to 1894, was asked what he did. "I lived." The Creole did much to live through his trials, and yet he did live, gaily, gracefully and charmingly. You know the names, I know the results. I haven't been at the Carnival in Rome and Naples for nothing. The atmosphere of the Carnival here, the psychical atmosphere always I fancy, and the physical atmosphere generally are like Geo. Washington, an entirely *sui generis*. A perennial delight to

all. There are many things here for which I cannot afford the expenditure of strength and money. But the resultant moral atmospheric effect is given me of opera and ball, of the old French streets, the new Audubon Place, the Audubon and City Parks, the Greek architecture of the Delgado Museum and the Spanish architecture of the Cabildo.

And speaking of Spanish architecture, what hasn't the Spanish Creole done for architecture in America? Think of those pictures Mr. Kent showed us. Think of this Cabildo and your court house, and the Capitol at Washington, and trace that Latin Palladian architecture which, taking from old Greece its noble ideas and adding the arch and the dome, has produced a type of architecture that most fittingly portrays the Latin genius as does the Gothic, the Teutonic genius. Let's tolerate them all with Quaker poise and enjoy them all with Creole grace. I'm grateful for the privilege of trying to give you a talk on such a lecture as Mr. CUSACHS (I print him in capitals because he's *caput societatis* and a capital fellow) asked me to do so.

Sorry that the great Creole teacher who was to have given really a great historical instruction is not with us in flesh. His was the Creole spirit. The spirit has so preserved and conserved principles that though the individual be absent there is much for which resident and visitor should feel gratitude.

Of the faithful heroes of the past be it said *requiescat in pace*. To us be it said gratefully go ahead; be sure it's gratefully, but go ahead with Exposition, Kenner R. R., fly extirpation, street building and leveeing the river, draining the Louisiana swamps and sanitation *que sais-je*. But the child should be grateful to the Mother. Gratefully go ahead Creole and non-Creole. I am grateful to Creole and non-Creole in New Orleans. Creole and non-Creole, may New Orleans, one and all, with reverent gratitude for what has been conserved, especially the principles, including politeness that have been conserved, go ahead.

Qua estis consuetudine avec politesse, en avant Creole. Au revoir.

CHARLES FREDERICK D'ARENSBURG.

(Delivered by Col. H. J. de la Vergne, before the Louisiana Historical Society, December 20, 1911, at the Cabildo.)

As a direct descendant of Charles Frederick d' Arensburg, through the de la Chaise and Villere families, I come before this learned body of the Louisiana Historical Society, and ask its attention that I may set before it information concerning my ancestor. I had the occasion last spring to make a beautiful and delightful voyage in the land of the midnight sun. At Stockholm I employed the services of a professional genealogist, with the request that he should make researches on the origin of Charles Frederick d'Arensburg. A fortnight ago I received the notes compiled by my genealogist, and I think that in justice to my ancestor to his numerous descendants and to the history of Louisiana, it is my duty to make public the knowledge in my possession.

Karl Fredrik von Arensburg was a Swede of noble German ancestry. He saw the light of day in the German Parish of the picturesque city of Stockholm in the year 1693. He received a military education and became a lieutenant in the Sodermanland Battalion of Boarders (naval). On the 25th of May, 1719, he submitted an application for promotion to a captaincy, which he obtained. He had then served his Majesty Charles XII eight years, was a prisoner of war twice and was wounded seven times. After the Battle of Pultawa he obtained leave to go on a voyage to Germany, but was in want of money for that purpose. It is then that he obtained service with the West Indies Company as leader of the German settlers, who arrived in Louisiana on board the Portefaix on the 4th of June, 1721. He was then 28 years old. He married in Louisiana Miss Marguerite Metzrin in 1722. He was commander of the German Coast about half a century. He was made Chevalier de St. Louis by Louis XV, was the head of the Revolution of 1768 and died honored as a Patriarch in 1777.

He was the son of Johan Leonard von Arensburg, who was Master (warden) of the Royal Mint of Stettin, called Director of the Minting Concerns in Pommerania. Implicated in a political affair of the Pommeranian Counts Bielcke, he and his brothers, Julius Kristian and Zakaris Hartvig von Arensburg were arrested in March, 1698. In a document addressed to the King, dated Stockholm, May 11, 1701, he states that they were all three then prisoners, and they had been under arrest in Stettin for fourteen months and in Stockholm thirty months, but had never been arraigned before any court. Their hostess, Judit Opperman, had lodged a complaint before His Majesty, regarding their debt to her, upwards of two hundred rixdalers for board and meals during more than one year. His freehold and personal estate and chattels, of very considerable value were seized and sequestered. The rent of his freehold property had benefited the tenant, and his wife had not been allowed to take the needful bedding linen and clothing, but had been compelled, with her six big and little children, to wander about with a beggar's staff. In 1703 he had been imprisoned altogether for six years, and was very nearly compelled to beg his daily bread. His relatives lived in Germany, where they owned in the town of Stettin a considerable stone house, and just outside of the town other possessions of houses and property. According to a statement of his son, Charles Fredrik, in 1719, it appears that his father had been imprisoned in Stockholm during thirteen years and that their house and garden, situated in front of the Frauen Thor by Stettin was totally destroyed in the Russian siege of 1713. His father married on the 14th of September, 1692, Elisabet Eleonora Forsmandt-Manderstrom, who was born July 17, 1678, and who died October 10, 1710. She was the daughter of Erik Forsmander, Chief Inspector of Customs at Wismar, sorting under the Customs Department of Mecklenburg, who was ennobled in 1703 with the name of Manderstrom, now a baronial family.

Karl Fredrik von Arensburg had six brothers and sis-

ters, among whom are mentioned Charlotta Lovisa, and Kristian Ludvig, both born in the German Parish of Stockholm, the former in 1699, and the latter in 1706. He had three uncles—Fredrik Kristian von Arensburg, who at the general muster and review of July 7, 1679, was Captain and Commander of a company in the Dragoon Regiment of Colonel Karl Gustaf Skytte (his signature exists).

2. Julius Kristian von Arensburg, who was in 1695 engaged at the Royal Mint at Stettin, Pomerania, at which period he was a wealthy man, but as up to 1698 there was nothing to be done there his substance was expended partly in his own support and partly in that of his serving men. In March, 1698, he was, as already stated, arrested, and all his remaining property, money, cash, silver and personal chattels were sequestered. On the 5th of November, 1711, he had been for thirty months and in a state of great misery imprisoned in Stockholm. He had relations in Strelitz. His father-in-law was governor in Mecklenburg.

• 3. Zakarias Hartvig von Arensburg, in 1696, was appointed Coinage Master-stamper at the Royal Mint at Stettin, and was Inspector of Customs in Stockholm in 1724. In 1743 he lived in a house in St. Catharine's Parish, Stockholm. He was arrested, together with his brothers, Johan Leonard and Julius Kristian in 1698, and had to spend his youth in misery and in prison.

The Chevalier d' Arensburg left a large posterity. Some of the most prominent families of Louisiana descend from him. According to Rietspap the coat of arms of the Arensburg is a shield parted, first, of argent, with a sable cross, and second of azure, with an argent eagle, inferring that they were knights of undaunted valor.

JACKSON, MISS.; THE STATE HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT AND LIBRARY.

(By Wm. Beer.)

Jackson, Miss., is a name with which we of New Orleans are very familiar. On our trips north we pass through it rapidly; but it deserves a longer stay. The railroad runs along the west side of a small stream which runs in to the Pearl River nearby, a stream navigable for over 100 miles of the city for eight months a year.

The main street runs across the railroad and due east to the old capitol building, it is well built up with handsome stores, on the north side of it are the Governor's mansion, and still further north the new and very handsome capitol building, finished in 1903, at a cost of a million dollars. The main resident street runs north and south in front of the old capitol building, at North Street, bordered with very handsome private dwellings; about a mile out, is the prosperous Millsaps College, and the new Belhaven Female College. The most picturesque view of the city is available on a car line known as the west end car, which runs northwest parallel to the railroad to a new suburb. On the return journey there is a beautiful view across the valley, of the city embowered in fine trees, having for its center the noble dome of the capitol. My interest was centered in this building in which are placed the collections of the State Historical Department and of the State Library.

The first repository of the territorial archives was the old home of the Spanish governors at Natchez.

There is also evidence to show that the official records of the territory were taken to Natchez during the first year of the administration of Governor Sargent.

During the administration of Governor Claiborne the town of Washington was made the seat of the territorial government and the official records were moved there.

It is stated in a report of the trustees of Jefferson College

that the archives of the State were deposited with the college librarian when the Legislature of 1819 met in Natchez.

In 1821 the seat of government was located at Columbia and it is known that at least a part of the records were kept there, as several manuscripts, messages, bills and acts of the Legislature are dated at that place.

Jackson was made the capital of the State in 1812, and the archives were brought to the new seat of government between that year and 1824 and deposited, no doubt, in the old capitol building, which stood on the corner of Capitol and President Streets, where the Harding building now stands.

Many years ago it was my privilege to spend a day with Chancellor Fulton at Oxford, Mississippi, when I examined various collections of newspapers and documents which were in the care of the Historical Society; founded in 1858 and reorganized in 1890, with the assistance and approval of its members. In 1900 an Historical Commission was appointed which led up to the formation of a department of Archives and History of the State of Mississippi, to which was handed over all the material that I had seen at Oxford, and the general archives of the State.

It was this collection and the general result of the work of Dr. Rowland, who has been since its creation the director of it, which was the cause of my recent visit to Jackson. On the removal of the state documents from the old capitol to the new Dr. Rowland found himself in charge of a vast mass of cumulated matter in addition to the partly classified material from the University. Dr. Rowland at once outlined the work of the department along three lines:

First, a museum and collection of portraits. These, now amounting to a large number of great interest, are together with battle flags and other valuable relics exhibited in fairly well lighted rooms at the east of the building.

Second, the collection, classification and binding of state newspapers, of which a splendid set commencing with a file of the Mississippi Messenger from 1805, and containing a

long set of the Washington Star printed at Natchez, occupy a room in the basement at the west end.

Thirdly, the transcription of historical documents relating to the early history of Mississippi in French, English and Spanish Archives selected by the director with the assistance of Mr. Leland, the Secretary of the American Historical Society, who has been engaged for many years in the examination of French archives for the Carnegie Institution.

Ten reports, which are on the table before me, relate in detail the work of the department. The fact that the territory of Mississippi was once a portion of the province of Louisiana indicates that these volumes contain a great deal of interest to the members of this society.

The first report of 1902 soon ran out of print and a second edition was published in 1911. It consist of ninety-one pages giving in detail the table of contents of Official Journals of Governors from 1798, which are full of correspondence with names eminent in Louisiana history; the State Legislature Archives and the Confederate War Records, consisting of about 702 rolls.

The fifth report contains the calendar of the documents which have been copied in Paris, and which are now in thirty handsomely bound volumes on the shelves of the Director's office. There are also many volumes of transcripts from England and Spain, the English volumes are in course of publication, this volume is well indexed and gives information of the utmost value to us members of the society.

The sixth contains a list of the portraits in the museum, and also of the newspapers collection.

The seventh gives in full a great number of letters of historical interest which had been collected by Major Isaac Guion, relating to the extension of the authority of the United States over the Spanish military post east of the Mississippi.

The average expense of the first ten years of operation of the Department, including the payments for transcrip-

tion and the very moderate salary of the Director, \$1,800 a year, has been \$4,300.

The Department published in 1908 and 1912 Official and Statistical Registers. That of 1908 contains 1,316 pages, and covers all the details of State history, including a Military History of 560 pages, there are in addition many illustrations and a series of valuable maps showing the growth and development of the State. The 1912 edition has 528 pages and besides routine information contains two historical papers of much interest, the History of Mississippi's Old Capitol and one on the Natchez Trace, the oldest historical highway of the South.

Vol. I of Mississippi Territorial Archives contains the Executive Journals of Governors Sargent and Claiborne, and Vol. I of Mississippi Provincial Archives, the documents transcribed in the public record office in London, letters and enclosures to the Secretary of State from Major Robert Farmar and Governor George Johnstone.

The library I remember under very distressing circumstances. It was in the old capitol building, which was erected in 1839, and had been the scene of many noteworthy events; the reception of Henry Clay in 1844, the Secession Convention in 1861, and last public appearance of Jefferson Davis in 1884. For many years in a wretched state, the ceilings of many of the rooms were falling and they were especially bad in the small rooms devoted to the library. On the shelves at that period were books four rows deep. Owing to the fortunate circumstance of fixidity of location, the collection of congressional documents was very much more complete than any we possess in the city. This library was started by instructions to the Secretary of the Territory in 1817 to purchase for the State Mellish's map of the United States and Darby's map of the State of Louisiana. The library itself was established in 1838 and the librarianship, after passing through many hands, has been held by Miss Plunkett since the year 1900. Her continuance in office is rather unusual in the Southern States, and

the result of this instant should prove a good example; Miss Plunkett having been able to create out of the vast quantity of unclassified volumes existing in the old building a department which deserves the highest credit. It consists of three parts, the law and miscellaneous libraries occupying handsome rooms on the main floor of the south end of the building, competent opinions of prominent legal authorities pronounce the law library excellent. The miscellaneous department is not of any great importance, but is very useful to the local educational institutions, it would be wise to turn it over to the new public library which is in course of formation. The third section under Miss Plunkett's charge is that of Congressional Documents, which are in the basement under the library. Those who are familiar with the consultation of this class of material know that a few years ago serial numbers were given to all the congressional documents commencing with the 15th Congress in 1817. The set at Jackson commences with some of the publications of the 17th in 1821, and with a few breaks in the earlier congresses affords to the students the greatest collection of contemporary historical material available in the Southern States.

After the abandonment of Washington and Natchez the old capitol, which was too far from the center of the State, on November 28th, 1821, an act was passed by the Legislature appropriating the present site of the city for the building in a town to be called and known as Jackson, in honor of Major General Andrew Jackson.

J. K. PAULDING.

The following extract from a manuscript by J. K. Paulding, entitled the Mississippi, will not be without interest. The entire manuscript is on quarto paper in a clear hand, and contains twenty-eight pages. He gives his impression of the journey from New Orleans to Cairo. His preface is as follows:

"Wishing to renew the impressions derived from a voyage of eight or ten days up this mighty river, and if possible convey them to the minds of others, I have endeavored to do so in the following sketch, premising that my design is limited to its general characteristics, not to minute description, and that having taken no notes, I depend altogether on my recollections.

I arrived at New Orleans from the pleasant little city of Mobile, by way of Lake Pontchartrain, one morning just at daylight, in the month of April, and immediately after depositing my trunk in the Hotel St. Louis proceeded to pay my respects to Father Mississippi. The first thing that struck me was seeing the water in the gutters running briskly from, instead of towards the river, agreeably to the invariable law of nature elsewhere; the next was finding myself walking up hill, instead of down, in approaching its margin. As I reached the summit, however, the sudden view of the river drove all these peculiarities from my mind at once. The current was sweeping away—along on one vast mass of boiling eddies which seemed conflicting with each other which should go foremost, its surface almost on a level with its bank, and overlooking the streets beneath. The opposite coast was one dead level, bounded by the distant forest, and the horizon beyond it, and the river reminded me of a fierce bumper which a single drop would overflow. These low level banks contribute to the apparent magnitude of the stream, by offering no interruption to the eye, as it glances over the wide expanse of turbid waters, which are of an ashy hue, and so opaque that one cannot see an inch

beyond their surface, thus leaving it to the imagination alone to fathom the deep obscurity. Altogether, though, I had all my life been in the habit of contemplating the beautiful majestic Hudson, which in many places is wider than the Mississippi at New Orleans, the impression made on my mind by this remarkable river was much more deep and profound. The truth is, my imagination was dwelling on its almost interminable course, its numberless tributaries, and its sublime unique characteristic of entire independence on the ocean, whose tribute it rejects and whose inroads it laughs to scorn.

Although my object is not to describe cities, yet New Orleans well deserves a passing notice.

It lies on the bend of the river, and its poetic name is "The Crescent City." The first settlement of the French, the ancient limits of Louisiana, was at Mobile, now the principal commercial city of the State of Alabama. From thence they proceeded to the mouth of the Mississippi, and began to establish themselves at Biloxi, of which they soon became aware of the disadvantages. Ascending the river, they pitched on the site of New Orleans, the place of which was marked out by M. de Bienville, I think about the year 1718.

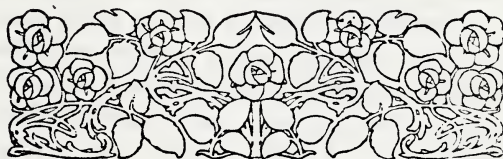
The progress of time more than a hundred years has more than realized the anticipations of the good Father. New Orleans is not only an "opulent city," but the capital of a rich and independent State, equal in population to some of the great cities of France that have existed for centuries, and if the past be any indication of the future, will, in one hundred years more, almost rival even Paris in magnitude. But such things have ceased to be wonders of this country; they present themselves to the traveler at every step and here become so common that they hardly excite surprise. There is no region on earth where men have witnessed such changes in the course of a single life. In the old world all is either stationary or decaying; in the new the looking glass of the world like a magic lantern is continually presenting,

what would seem the most monstrous exaggerations, were they not stamped with reality by the testimony of truth and experience. We are some time jeered for our sanguine anticipations; but are they not fully justified by the past? Happy is that people whose guide is the highest star of Hope; whose Heaven is in the future yet to come, not in the past which is gone forever.

Having received my impressions of New Orleans from the race of Samelfungus Travellers of the John Bull School, who go about as it were like every lion, seeking who they may devour, and who libel a nation for a bad bed or a bad dinner, I was agreeably surprised at finding it one of the most orderly, decorous cities in the world. I was under the serious apprehension of being robbed at noonday, knocked on the head at night, or at least being obliged to fight a duel with some ferocious dandy with tremendous whiskers. But all these fears vanished in a few days, during which I neither saw a drunken man, a fight, an assassination or a mob; and I came to the conclusion that at best an honest, well disposed, peaceable man might stand a good chance of living there, as long as any where else, provided he kept clear of the yellow fever, which, after all, does not carry off so many people as consumption in the North. Though so early in the Spring it was the season of flowers and bouquets which are made up here in a style superior to any I have ever seen, and are displayed in shops, markets and every where. Flora seemed the presiding goddess, and the Creole ladies are her attendant nymphs. I should be sorry if this pleasant city were ever drowned, as does not seem altogether improbable, since it is deluged by every Summer shower; menaced by the Mississippi which peeps over its banks at it rather suspiciously; and the ground on which it is presumed to stand, is more than half water. Standing one day on the levee, I perceived the water of the river slyly insinuating itself through a little opening and beginning to slide down towards the city below. On pointing this out to a capital specimen of half-horse, half-alliga-

tor who was sitting on the roof of a broad horn, and expressing my apprehensions, he rolled his quid about the deep profundity within and replied with a significant jeer—"Don't make yourself uneasy, stranger, folks born to be hanged, need never be afraid of drowning."

James K. Paulding was born in the State of New York in 1778, of Dutch descent. He was intimate with all of the literary men of his period, specially with Washington Irving. Began his literary career by contributing to the "Morning Chronicle." In 1817 he published "Letters from the South by a Northern Man," containing accurate description of Virginia and its people. Between 1818 and 1823 he became Secretary of the Navy, and after his retirement made a trip with the President, Van Buren, which places the date of these notes at about 1842. He died in 1860.



SOME EARLY COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS OF LOUISIANA.

(By *Joseph A. Breaux.*)

Long before the College of Orleans was chartered, the need of an institution for the education of the youth of Louisiana was recognized. The Lemoyne brothers were always zealous adherents of the cause of the French colonies. The names of Bienville and Iberville of that family are inseparably connected with the history of the colonies under French domination. Bienville had already been informed of his recall, and notified that another was on his way to succeed him; but he was not the less interested in all that related to Louisiana. Appreciating the great necessity for schools to educate the children of the colonies, he wrote to his home government on the subject, and sought influences on behalf of such schools, but met only with disappointment. The colonies themselves were not very much interested. Those who had means sent their children to school abroad. This is not always an advisable step, since frequently those educated in distant colleges return without being very much concerned about their home surroundings and their community.

Louisiana in any field, it seems to me, is interesting. I must confess that, when the suggestion was made to me, I knew precious little of the College of Orleans. But I felt some curiosity to become more familiar with the subject, particularly when I learned that Charles Gayarre was one of the students of the school, and one of its graduates, and that it was the only college that he had attended. Mr. Gayarre has written some things about the College of Orleans, but he does not mention the fact that he was ever one of its students.* As the college went out of existence

* He does so under the pseudonym of Fernando de Lemos—in his work of that name—which contains the only published description of the old College of Orleans. He also took pleasure in recalling the fact, in conversation, that he was a student in the old college.—*Grace King.*

years ago, he may have thought that his fame was entirely above this at-one-time highly useful educational institution of this city. It conferred benefits on the community, of which it is well not to lose sight entirely.

The College of Orleans was a non-sectarian foundation, as it was under the patronage of the State, and was created by act of legislature dated 1805. Among the regents was the Reverend Patrick Walsh; the well-known philanthropist, Julien Poydras, was president of the legislative council, and William Claiborne, the governor, signed and approved the statute to which it owes its organization. It was situated where now stands the Church of Saint Augustine, at the corner of Hospital and St. Claude Streets. It was the first institution of Louisiana incorporated under legislative enactment. In the beginning it was in charge of Jules d'Avezac, a native of San Domingo, and a brother-in-law of Edward Livingston, the celebrated lawyer. He and Livingston were military aids on the staff of General Jackson at the battle of New Orleans. Mr. Gayarre refers to d'Avezac in tender accents, he knew him as a sympathetic and upright man, for whom his juvenile subjects of the College entertained the highest regard. D'Avezac remained in charge only a short time. As he was a lawyer, it is probable that he left the College of Orleans to practice law, just as so many others connected with educational institutions have done.

Rocheftort, another native of San Domingo, succeeded d'Avezac. About 4,000 of the unfortunate population of San Domingo took refuge in New Orleans, where they received the sympathy and support of the people. Generally these San Domingans were energetic, and a number of them were highly educated, and rendered valuable services. There were lawyers among them—Moreau-Lislet, whose name is identified with the laws of the State; and Dormenon. Of the latter, however, and of his eventful career, nothing favorable can be said. Strange to say, for acts committed before he came to New Orleans he was disbarred and destituted from the office of judge which he occupied. His

case is reported in the first of Martin's Reports, and forms a somewhat interesting chapter in the jurisprudence of the state.

To turn our attention again to Rochefort, the teacher of belles-lettres—he must have been a kind-hearted man. He had his residence in a very large building, where he assembled his favorite students. And he had theater parties, the expenses of which had to be met by the parents of the students; for he was economical, although a poet. On the day after a theater party they enjoyed themselves in discussing and criticising the plays and actors of the regular troupes. He would also treat students to suppers, and at the opportune time, when wine flowed freely, he read his poems. It is said that his friendly students incurred the enmity of other students and of other teachers. The account given by Mr. Gayarre of his visit to Rochefort on his deathbed is most pathetic. As frequently is the case with literary men, Rochefort had been indifferent to mere lucre, and he was driven to such stress that he had been under the necessity of selling many of his books. It was to him like parting with something of himself, his own flesh. Still, he had quite a number remaining upon which it pleased him to rest his eyes. Just previous to this visit Mr. Gayarre had been elected to the United States Senate. When he entered the sickroom the old professor exclaimed, "Let me kiss, child, thy capitolian lips, before I am wafted across the Styx by old Charon. I predict that you will have a brilliant future. You are my work, boy, you are my work, never forget it." Mr. Gayarre adds, "If the students gave him the name of old Tyrtaeus, as he had a clubfoot, he also was a poet. He was laid at rest many years ago. True to his wishes, I have never forgotten him. Let these lines be proof of my fond and grateful remembrance."

Mr. Gayarre is pleased to mention also the professor of mathematics of the College, Teinturie, who received, he says, a good salary. He notes his combination of occupations. He says that he was an excellent gardener, and also

that another string to his bow was the tuning of pianos. But all this did not in the least detract from his usefulness as a mathematician. He was also fond of natural history. We infer that he was a versatile man. He was very much opposed to light literature, to poetry, and for that reason he was not on friendly terms with the professor of literature. He said that these were mere amusements, pastime, that there was one science, mathematics—the Alpha and Omega, the great I am, the pervading spirit of the universe.

The professor of literature was equally as emphatic against the science of mathematics. "Euclid, Euclid, who is he?" he would exclaim. "I see some of Teinturier's nonsense. How I regret that my best students should be spoiled, have the imagination chilled, the poetic fire extinguished, by the teaching of dry mathematics."

The College of Orleans had a fairly good curriculum; Latin, French, Spanish, English and mathematics were taught, also fencing, considered in those days an indispensable part of a gentleman's education. And, if we may judge by the results in Mr. Gayarre's case, the instruction was thorough.

The name of Lakanal has come down to us as one of the teachers in this College. He in time became president of the institution. He came to New Orleans from Paris, where he had exerted considerable political influence. He was a member of the national convention, and was one of those who voted for the execution of Louis XVI without the right of repeal or reprieve. Lakanal, like Talleyrand, had been a priest; he broke his vows and became a member of the national convention. In France, he led an active life, and occupied prominent positions; among others that of a professorship of belles-lettres. When his popularity declined he left France and came to this country.

The College of Orleans unquestionably performed a useful part. It was a pattern for other schools. It was under the patronage of the state. It was the first institution for the higher education under state control in this country. But

the College lost its influence. Whether this was due, as a great many thought, to the circumstance that Lakanal, the regicide, was its president, or that the community did not feel the interest in this College that communities should feel in their institutions of learning, the fact remains that in the twenties its doors were closed. In the early days of the College of Orleans it seems that harmony prevailed. Nearby there was the Ursuline Convent. The nuns of that institution looked upon the College with favor, and even exercised a mild and kindly influence in its behalf. Public opinion was generally favorable toward it. There was no dissension among the people of different creeds and origin in regard to it. This speaks volumes. Why should it ever be otherwise?

The law-making power subsequently chartered another institution of learning, the College of Louisiana. It was located at Jackson, La. It was endowed with a small sum. It was considered as the successor of the College of Orleans. It had an able faculty and a number of students, but failed. The College of Louisiana was sold by the State to the Methodist denomination, and became the Centenary College. Some prominent citizens were students in this College, among them were: E. John Ellis, the orator; Judge Charles Parlange, Judge A. D. Land, of the Supreme Court, and William Schwing, the well-known attorney of Lake Charles.

In the year 1831 the College of Jefferson was incorporated by Etienne Mazureau, Doctor F. Burthe, J. H. Sheperd and others. The statement is made that this institution owed its origin to the divided sentiments of the French and English population of the state. In other words, as the College of Orleans had been under French influence, and as the actual College of Louisiana was under English influence, it is asserted that the College of Jefferson was established in opposition to the College of Louisiana. The result was that the efforts of both were paralyzed by their rivalries, and the final outcome was the downfall of both. Such differences are deplorable, they should never arise in

any community, and they do not meet with the countenance of generous men. But divided sentiment is not a pleasant subject, so we leave it.

It is not possible within reasonable time on this occasion to give even a passing account of all the universities, colleges and academies established under state patronage, consequently I have limited myself to the early schools and colleges of our state.

History records, however, that the state during all these years had not given itself much concern about the common schools, its whole endeavor had been in the direction of establishing institutions to foster the higher education. Thus during the days of the colony, and of the territory, and for many years after the state had been organized, there was very little done for popular education. The public schools amounted to very little, some of them were mere travesties. Fortunately there were a few private schools in the early days. Teachers were employed by a few parents to teach their children. There were no public or community schools. At first (in the early twenties) French teachers were employed by families in the country, later English teachers were introduced. Some of these were itinerant teachers, coming some times as pedestrians, some times on horseback. There were a few who rendered good service. Those teachers were not subjected to examination to determine their competency. Those for whom they taught were generally unlettered men, planters and others, but leading men in the community. They were countrymen whose tastes and habits were simple. About the end of the week they assembled at the nearby village and discussed things generally, principally the crops, the drainage and labor. Occasionally they would branch off from these trite topics. At one of the meetings in those early days, a group took up the subject of schools. One of the number was assertive and insisted that the teacher in his employ was the most competent teacher that had ever taught in the countryside. Another of the planters took issue with him, and championed his teacher as

the most competent. The talk waxed warm, the air was made lurid by the strong words used—it all became intensely personal, and something was uttered about an early morning meeting, but friends intervened. Years afterward a teacher who had grown old in the community in which he taught in his young years—it was in Southwest Louisiana—related to me with Gallic good humor, that he and the other teacher (his friend) over whom the quarrel arose, had come near causing a duel—*une affaire serieuse*—because of difference of opinion in regard to their ability as teachers. In time all this changed. Gradually the private schools were closed and were succeeded by the public schools. This change became noticeable in the fifties.

In our day the schools have greatly improved, but there is room for further improvement. Schools lay the foundations of society. They contribute to the building up of communities. There should be true and good work in this direction as well as in others. For work is the panacea for all the ills of society. The reward of work is great; it gives knowledge, strength, peace; it widens the range of reason. The young, the old, the strong, the rich, the poor, all must work, for it makes men like the Almighty whose work never ceases. Efficient work in all places is the goal to which all are invited.

New Orleans, November, 1914.

FORT MACOMB.

(*By P. M. Milner.*)

Fort Macomb is situated at the confluence of the River Chef Menteur and Bayou Gentilly, or Sauvage, about 21.8 miles from Canal and Carondelet streets. It is not on government land. In fact, the fort was erected and completed fourteen years before the United States Government took possession of the land to form a Military Reservation.

A brief history of the tract of land known as "Chef Menteur Plantation" is interesting.

By patent dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, March 10, 1763, Louis de Kerlerec, Knight of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, Captain of the King's vessels, Governor of the Province of Louisiana, and Dennis Nicholas Foucault, acting as ordering commissioner in said colony, considering the petition and by virtue of the powers vested in them by his Majesty, granted unto Sieur Maxent "the land asked by him, at the place called Chantilly, starting from the boundary corner of the thirty arpents at said place, which we have granted the 9th instant to the Sieur Dufossat up to the point called Chef Menteur."

In those good old days our ships were of wood, and hence we find in this interesting document the reservation to the King of all necessary timber for the building and repairs of ships. This custom of reserving the timber on public land for ships was followed by our own government, and in the early land titles of this section of the country, we find section reservations of oak forests.

This land passed from the succession of Gilbert de Saint Maxent to Don Luis Declouet, at a public auction December 14, 1796, per process verbal deposited in the archives of the City Council of this city. It was described as "the plantation and land commonly called Chef Menteur."

Don Bartholome Lafon purchased the property from Don Luis Declouet, Lieutenant of Regiment, by Act signed

in the city of New Orleans, the 7th of January, 1801, attested by Antonio Pedro Pedesclaux, Notary Public. This property, known as Claim No. 316, was confirmed to Lafon by the United States Government. (Volume 2, page 325, Public Lands, Surveyor General's office, Louisiana).

After the death of Bartholome Lafon, the property was divided into forty-four lots, according to a plat, and sold, reserving sixty feet for a public road on the side of Bayou Sauvage. In this sale there is a curious reference, as follows:

"There is on the plantation a house built of cypress wood—three cabins, with posts in the ground fenced in and covered with boards."

What a graphic picture of desolation and primitiveness such a recitation, now 150 years later, brings to the mind, and how valuable were these primitive structures.

These forty-four lots were sold to different persons, and I am informed that it took Antoine Michaud, who had acquired part of the property, twenty years to purchase all the various lots, finally getting the entire tract in his name.

Only recently, on the 2nd day of May, 1910, this property was sold to a corporation, formed principally of Chicago capitalists, and known as the New Orleans Drainage Company, for a cash consideration of \$400,000. A great reclamation project was unfolded and the property bonded to the extent of \$2,500,000. The interest on these bonds was not paid and within the last few months the mortgage was foreclosed, and the property will very shortly change hands again.

The designation of this tract of land as Chef Menteur is also very interesting historically, and apparently little known. Gayarre, in his History of Louisiana, Volume 4, page 351, connects the name Chef Menteur with the famous Choctaw tribe. He says: "What the Choctaws were most conspicuous for was their hatred of falsehoods and their love of truth. Tradition relates that one of their Chiefs became so addicted to the vice of lying that in disgust they drove him away from their territory. In the now Parish

of Orleans, back of Gentilly, there is a tract of land, in the shape of an isthmus projecting itself into Lake Pontchartrain, not far from the Rigolets, and terminating in what is called Pointe-aux-Herbs, or Herb Point. It was there that the exiled Choctaw Chief retired with his family and a few adherents near a Bayou which discharges itself into the Lake. From that circumstance the tract of land received and still retains the appellation of Chef Menteur, or "Lying Chief."

In those old days, this point was considered of sufficient importance to justify the erection of a battery, and we find that Gayarre in his History, Volume 4, page 384, says:

"At the confluence of Bayou Chef Menteur and Bayou Sauvage or Gentilly, General Jackson caused a battery to be erected."

This was evidently just prior to the battle of New Orleans.

In the same volume, page 404, he speaks of General Jackson's instructions for the defense of the city: He immediately ordered the battalion of men of color commanded by Major Lacoste, who must not be supposed to be of African descent, but who was an influential planter of Caucasian blood, to take post with the dragoons of Feliciana and two pieces of artillery, at the confluence of Bayou Sauvage or Gentilly and Bayou Chef Menteur, in order to cover the road to the city on that side.

On a map made by Major A. Lacarrierre Latour, late Principal Engineer of the 7th Military District, United States Army, showing the seat of War in Louisiana and West Florida and all fortified points, he places a battery at the junction of Gentilly and Chef Menteur. In Latour's Memoirs, page 203, reference is made to General Jackson's order to "continue the construction of the redoubts begun on the river Chef Menteur at the confluence of Bayou Sauvage," and the statement is made that the number of troops encamped on Lafon's plantation had been augmented with Colonel Nelson's regiment of volunteers from the Mississippi territory 450 strong.

And this reference to Lafon's plantation calls to mind the

picturesque, even beautiful old brick chimney, a hundred feet from the public road, a few miles this side of Michaud Station, which still stands erect, unmarked by the ravages of fire and time, a magnificent example of splendid masonry, square at its middle and base and round in its upper part, relic of a once fine sugar house that overlooked beautiful fields of cane—a hundred years ago.

It was not strange, therefore, that our government, when it began to fortify New Orleans, according to the needs of those old lays, thought this point a desirable point for the erection of a Fort.

Fort Macomb doubtless derived its name from Alex Macomb, Major General Chief Engineer United States Army.

We find a reference to it in American State Papers, Volume 3, page 137, in the report of this Engineer for the year ending 30th of September, 1825, as follows:

“At Chef Menteur the progress of the operations has been much obstructed by the unusual quantity of rain which fell during the year; yet the means of the contractors have been so ample and well organized as to have enabled them to overcome every difficulty, and, by the quantity of work executed, to have absorbed nearly the whole appropriation on the 30th of September.”

It appears that construction was begun in 1820.

The cost of the work up to September 30, 1825, had been \$253,548.94, and it was estimated to complete the work it would cost an additional \$117,270.01.

We find in a report of November 18, 1826, American State Papers, Volume 3, page 359, “that the Fort might be completed next year.” A report of Major General Edmund P. Gaines on “Fortifications” up to April, 1827, states that the Fort of Chef Menteur is so nearly completed as to be ready to receive its armament complete at the close of the present working season, or, if necessary, within a week from the time of inspection. And by a report of the Engineer found in Volume 4, American State Papers, page 18, dated November 19, 1828, we read:

"Fort Chef Menteur, as anticipated at the date of the last annual report, was completed soon afterwards and occupied by a military garrison. A special and minute examination was made in March last by an officer of Engineers, who reports that the materials of which it is built are of an excellent quality and the workmanship good, and that he could not discover the slightest injury of any kind."

A report dated September 30, 1828, gave the total cost of the work at \$362,812.08.

The exact date of the completion of the Fort is not obtainable, nor have I been able to find the number of guns that were mounted, although there still remains some six carriages or chassis on the inner wall; in fact, you would be surprised to know how little information can be obtained from the War Department Records concerning the history of the Fort.

We see that the name of the Fort was originally Chef Menteur. Subsequently it was referred to in the official records as Fort Wood and on June 23, 1851, the name was changed to Fort Macomb. It was first garrisoned by Company H, 2nd Artillery, under the command of Captain Richard A. Zantlinger, in February, 1828.

It is certain that the Fort never saw any action, but stood all the early years as a silent guardian of one of the approaches to our old city, and I am sure that the men of the garrison were glad of the relief from the solitude of the place which our city afforded when off on leave.

Just before the Civil War, and when the Southern States were warned to prepare for the worst, the Fort came in for some little share of recognition.

I find that General G. T. Beauregard, in a letter to the Military Board of the State of Louisiana, dated New Orleans, February 13, 1861 (Volume 1, Series 1, page 501 of an official publication entitled the "War of the Rebellion," prepared under the direction of the Secretary of War), refers to the necessity of getting ready for war, and asked that the guns, chassis and carriages at Forts Pike and Wood, not required for the present, be sent at once to Forts

Philip and Jackson. This letter had immediately followed the taking possession of Fort Macomb by our Louisiana troops.

In the same publication (Volume I, Series 1, pages 492-4) we find a letter dated January 31, 1861, written at Fort Macomb by D. Wilbur, Ordnance Sergeant, United States Army, to Colonel S. Cooper, Adjutant General United States Army, stating that Lieutenant R. C. Capers, with a detachment of the First Regiment of Louisiana Infantry, took charge of this Fort on the 28th instant. He said: "I turned over all property under protest, closed my accounts and transmitted them to the Department."

This Fort remained in possession of our troops until recaptured by the Union forces on April 27, 1862. In the War of the Rebellion (Volume 6, Series 1), we find the statement that Forts Pike and Macomb were evacuated by order of Colonel Fuller, and without the knowledge or approval of General Lovell, on the morning of April 27, 1862.

After the War, the United States Government maintained an officer in charge of the Fort until the Barracks building was destroyed by fire, after which the Government leased out the Military reservation of Fort Macomb.

In "Military Reservations," by Louis W. Call, 1910 Edition, page 135, we find the reservation of Fort Macomb described as follows:

"Fort Macomb—Formerly Fort Wood, and contained an area of 1,364.71 acres. The reservation is at Pass Chef Menteur, on Lake Borgne, in the Parish of Orleans. Assuming it to be a part of the public domain, it was reserved for military purposes by Executive order dated February 9, 1842, which included all the public land lying within 1200 yards of the fort, measured from the most salient parts of the work. Claims arising, based upon French grants, Executive Order dated June 20, 1896, transferred to the Department of the Interior all that portion of the reservation which lies on the west side of Chef Menteur Pass, in Sec. 28, T. 11 S., R. 14 E., Southern District of Louisiana.' The area of the remainder is unknown."

That the Fort is still regarded by the United States Government as having some value as a defense to New Orleans is found by a report of the Chief Engineers in 1896, under date of June 5th, concurring in the report of a Board of Engineers concerning the reservation, as follows:

"The Board of Engineers is of opinion that so much of the Fort Macomb Military Reservation as lies on the West Bank of Chef Menteur Pass, including the site of Fort Macomb, is essential to the defense of New Orleans, and should be retained by the United States.

A very interesting and perhaps unknown fact in connection with Fort Macomb is that jurisdiction over the reservation was ceded to the United States by an Act of the State Legislature, approved June 1, 1846, in the following words:

"That the jurisdiction and control over the sites of the following works of fortification be, and the same hereby are, granted and ceded to the United States for military purposes, viz: * * over Fort Wood at the Chef Menteur Pass, and over all the land within 1200 yards of the Fort, measured from the most salient parts of the same."

"Provided always, and the cession and jurisdiction aforesaid are granted upon the express condition that this Commonwealth shall retain a concurrent jurisdiction with the United States in and over the said tracts of land, so far as that all civil and such criminal process as may issue under the authority of this Commonwealth, against any person or persons charged with crimes committed without the said tracts of land and may be executed therein in the same way and manner as though this cession and consent had not been made and granted, except so far as such persons may affect the real or personal property of the United States within the ceded territory."

And here ends our history of this old Fort, now in ruins, abandoned, neglected, and disintegrating in parts, the moat surrounding it partly filled with debris and weeds, standing grim and forbidding in its isolation—but if you will permit me now to romance a bit, I will tell you of the future of the old Fort.

In 1907, being an enthusiastic automobilist, I found myself one evening at Lee Station, on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, following a winding road along Bayou Sauvage. I followed the road until it was lost in the woods. There were fine trees on either side of the road; here and there magnificent magnolias in bloom, and ever and anon a giant cypress that had been racked by the ravages of time, its great limbs bare, with the exception of moss, pointing like arms to Heaven.

I was enthused with the natural beauty of this section of our city and came back determined to build a road from New Orleans to Chef Menteur, or Fort Macomb. I imbued several of my friends with my enthusiasm, and later as one of the directors of The Motor League of Louisiana, I determined that the life work of the League should be the construction of a road to Chef Menteur and Fort Macomb.

I will not tire you with the details of this achievement. Suffice it to say that after eighteen months of arduous work, and overcoming many obstacles, both financial and physical, we succeeded in completing the construction of fifteen miles of roadway, building a splendid dirt highway to Fort Macomb. This work was rendered possible by the civic pride and patriotism of the Directors of The Motor League of Louisiana, who gave their personal credit to the Bank to obtain the funds with which to pay for the work. Governor Sanders secured for us, through the Board of Control of the State Penitentiary, a convict camp to do the work.

The road was completed in July, 1911, and since that time we have looked forward to a permanent highway between New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. The completion of a highway seemed far off until May of this year, when our Legislature convened. The idea occurred to me then to secure a State Registration of automobiles so as to bring in a legal revenue from this source, which could be capitalized for the purpose of constructing and maintaining public highways. With the assistance of Mr. Walter L. Gleason, we prepared an Act requiring registration of automobiles. At a con-

ference between Mayor Behrman, Commissioner Harold Newman, Commissioner E. E. Lafaye, Mr. Walter L. Gleason and myself, we convinced these members of the City Council that a permanent highway between New Orleans and the Gulf Coast towns would be of immense value to the city of New Orleans, and a great delight to its people, besides opening New Orleans to the wealthy tourist trade of the East. These gentlemen promised us if we obtained the legal fund that could be capitalized, to issue Certificates of Indebtedness, and to build the road to St. Tammany, building a draw bridge at Chef Menteur and a draw bridge at the Rigolets.

Our Bill in the Legislature had a narrow escape. In fact, it was only passed in the Senate on the day of adjournment. Our friends, Mr. Joseph E. Generelly and Mr. John C. Davey and others, whose support they enlisted, secured the abandonment of all opposition. Mr. J. Zach Spearing was assisting the Governor in reading and passing upon the Acts for signature. I sent an anxious wire to him, telling him that the Bill would pass the Senate that day, and to be sure to get it signed. Mr. Spearing went to the enrolling room, got the Bill out and took it to the Governor for signature.

I do not feel that I am violating any confidence or making any improper statement when I say, therefore, that a permanent highway is now assured the citizens of New Orleans between New Orleans and St. Tammany Parish. St. Tammany Parish has recently voted a Bond issue of \$200,000 to build permanent roads throughout this Parish, and bridges over East and West Pearl Rivers have been arranged for by the Hancock County of Mississippi and St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. I believe, therefore, that we can promise that by the end of 1915, the citizens of New Orleans residing during the summer months at Pass Christian, Bay St. Louis, Waveland and other places, may drive over a permanent highway in their automobiles, in very little longer time than it takes to go by train.

I was also instrumental in securing for The Motor League

of Louisiana title to 16.3 acres of land, covering the fortifications at Chef Menteur. Within the past few weeks, in a foreclosure proceeding involving Chef Menteur land, I succeeded in obtaining a decree of sale. This gives The Motor League of Louisiana perfect title to the site of the Fort and surrounding lands, with the exception of such interest as the United States Government may have.

In addition to this I secured a lease from the United States Government for the entire Military Reservation of Fort Macomb, with permission of the War Department to build a Clubhouse on the Fort site. I am now actively engaged in organizing a club that it is proposed to be styled "The Fort Macomb," thus perpetuating the name.

At last another dream is about to come true. At last, we will have a wonderful road leading into Mississippi, and on the site of old Fort Macomb there will rest a beautiful clubhouse, and at night a thousand rays of light will pierce the darkness and a great beacon light will throw its beams over Lake Borgne and Lake Pontchartrain, and be a lure to the people of New Orleans, who will go in their power boats from West End and Spanish Fort, and as they draw near they will hear the sounds of revelry, the music of the dance and light, rippling laughter float out, and as they approach the once frowning walls of the old Fort, perchance, they will look up and see a lovely girl with her companion out in the night, tired of the dance, sitting on a carriage that once mounted a cannon, looking down into the blue waters of Chef Menteur, thinking of themselves, of love and the joy of living, and the beauty of it all, but with never a thought of those old, old days, when Fort Macomb was garrisoned by stern visaged men, and when a lonely sentinel passed her walls.

ADRIEN ROUQUETTE.

By T. P. Thompson.

Adrien Rouquette, whose memory was recently celebrated by the erection, at the site of an old chapel in St. Tammany Parish, of a concrete cross, has many rights to recognition by the people of his native State—Louisiana.

Rouquette in his nature, was peculiar and apart; he was a marked genius from the beginning. He made his impression in literature when a man had to be much above mediocre to get attention. Born in New Orleans, February 26th, 1813, of wealthy parents, his early life at his father's country place on Bayou Lacombe, was spent largely in a Choctaw Indian environment. His own choice was for the Indian boys' sports and the life of the woods. So here, summer after summer, he came during boyhood, his embryo poet soul gradually developing into a veritable afflatus divine. He had learned the woods, the birds, the aborigines, and had assimilated during these days into his being a nature-understanding, which later was to find expression in Paris, where his faculty of interpretation and poetic expression was splendidly perfected in the schools which at the same time also gave forth Chateaubriand, Lacordaire, Lamartine and other distinguished figures in that great era of poetry—the first half of the nineteenth century;—these were also the days of Burns, Moore and Byron.

If Adrian Rouquette had persisted, he would have made great literary fame in France for Creole Louisiana, and would have, no doubt, received every honor accorded there to genius. As it was, Rouquette was known in Europe for the grace of his verse; Thomas Moore, the Irish bard, gave written testimony to the genius of our Louisiana poet.

Next was developed his natural flow of oratory. In the year 1846, at the Cathedral, before a great 8th of January audience, he thrilled his hearers as had never been done before in that ancient building since the day Bishop Dubourg

spoke before General Jackson, directly after the Battle of New Orleans. This oration was reprinted in France, where Rouquette was well known, and many high commendations were made by his admirers in that country.

Shortly afterwards he became pastor of the Cathedral, and visitors from above Canal Street were wont to come in great numbers to hear him speak. It was during this time that his missionary ability was developed to a high degree. Archbishop Blanc encouraged the Abbe Rouquette in every manner; there seemed to be no limit to the circle of his influence. He became editor of the French Catholic paper, *Le Propagateur Catholique*, and published a volume of poetry. Altogether there was probably no position or honor which might not have been attained by this brilliant young clergyman.

Of a sudden he announced to his Bishop that he intended to retire from the public eye, and to devote himself to the simple task of spiritually directing the remnant of Choctaws, whose last villages were a few miles above the north coast of Lake Pantchartrain, in St. Tammany Parish. In vain did the Archbishop plead with the poet-priest. His mind had deliberated, and his heart had won the day.

Variety of literary creation had no longer any charm, the lure of the woods was on him, and the mission of the care of the Choctaw seemed his only call for the future.

He locked away in an old hair trunk, unedited and unpublished, the work of years—the sweetest strains of musical verse and the most romantic of prose poems, orations patriotic and appealing—matter that would have given him high station at once, in the literary world, had he shaped it for printing. But he had within him a deep philosophy, and a pious design which inspired him to cast aside worldly honor and applause for the, to him, more pleasing homage of the Indian brother, who had none else to look to for spiritual comfort.

Father Rouquette adopted an Indian dress and the

pseudonym, Chata Ima, already given him by these simple people. He transferred a few necessary belongings to Bayou Lacombe, where he erected his first chapel; here he made his humble hermitage, going forth from time to time to care for several other chapels erected conveniently among the Choctaw settlements of St. Tammany.

I did not intend in this paper to say much about the life of the Abbe Rouquette,—fortunately, such is not necessary. Mrs. S. B. Elder, a member of this Society, has recently published a very full life of this remarkable man. All I desired to do, was to indicate to you the interest of his character historically.

Father Rouquette was a belated pioneer; he should have been born two centuries before. Instinctively he fell into line and was the last of the long series of missionaries which began originally to come over from France at the beginning of the Seventeenth Century. By his last work among these Indians he has made of himself an interesting figure, giving a glimpse to the historian of the last generation, of the kind of men they were, who blazed the way for the colonization and settlement of the Mississippi Valley.

On the twelfth of October last it was my pleasure to accompany a party of gentlemen on a pilgrimage to the site of the first chapel of the Abbe Rouquette, near Lacombe station in St. Tammany Parish. The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus had fixed upon that day to mark the historic site of this first chapel of this last Indian Missionary of Louisiana. The President and many members of this Society were of the number present. The day was beautiful and the woods were quite as primeval in appearance as they were when the red man lived alone with the birds, and was free from land values and the desires of his white brother.

Some two hundred people were present, and a large Gallic cross with proper inscription, giving date of birth—1813, and other simple data, was in place; a stand had been erected in the woods which fortunately forms a part of his father's former country home and is owned to-day by a

niece, Miss Augustine Rouquette, who has donated two acres for the park-site of the memorial.

Gathered about were many people of many colors and complexions; some of the older auditors knew Chata Ima, and to them this ceremony had peculiar significance. In these echoing woods Archbishop James Blenk and several other orators told over the simple story of this picturesque character.

Charles Janvier acted as chairman, introducing William C. Dufour, a great-nephew of the poet, as the principal lay speaker. Mr. Dufour made an impassioned address which was received with much interest, he was followed by Mr. Cusachs, who added much interest from his personal investigations. There was given a fine appreciation by Archbishop Blenk, a poem was read by Rixford Lincoln, there was music, and a drill by uniformed Knights. A copper box containing Mrs. Elder's Life of Rouquette and the *Morning Star* newspaper was enclosed under the stone—and then was concluded the first of the most significant program of similar historical and memorial ceremonies that has as yet been projected in any part of America.

It is proposed to mark some ten or more sites—within the present state lines of Louisiana, which have historic interest connected with the beginnings of the discovery and the settlement of the Mississippi Valley.

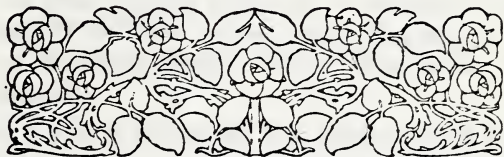
Some of the work proposed by the historic site committee of the Knights of Columbus will be of interest to this body.

Bienville Assembly is the name of the particular organization which is doing excellent work. The next site to be marked will be that of the house built by Bienville in New Orleans, when he established himself as Governor of Louisiana—and laid out the infant capital. This house he turned over to the use of the Ursuline ladies, who came over in 1727 to found a school and hospital, and here these pioneer sisters resided for six years pending the erection of their first convent, still standing and in use for religious purposes.

The next site to be marked will be that of the La Salle memorial cross, near the mouth of the Mississippi, where was named Louisiana.

Then the burial place of De Soto at the mouth of the Red River, the mission site at Adaye; the French post at Natchitoches; St. Martin's Church—Attakapas Post, Red Church, Opelousas, Audubon's birthplace, and, in old Louisiana; Old Biloxi settlement, For Rosalie, the death place of La Salle, Marquette's furthest point south, etc.

I would like to add to this paper a suggestion which we, the Louisiana Historical Society, might take into consideration, it would be the idea of locating by permanent tablet the romantic and historic sites, in our own New Orleans. This was done some years ago by the Museum Board of Curators on the occasion of President Taft's visit, but these markings were of temporary make, and it is good time to do something of a more permanent and pretentious nature. There are some fifty local spots of historic and romantic interest, and the work can be done in stone or metal for five hundred dollars.



RESUME OF THE MEETINGS OF THE LOUISIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1913-14.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 1913.

The annual meeting of the Louisiana Historical Society was held on Wednesday, Jan. 15th, 1913, in the Cabildo. President Fortier called the meeting to order at 8 p. m., with a quorum present. Secretary Gill read the minutes of the preceding meeting, and these were adopted.

The Committee on Membership recommended the election of the following persons as members of the Society: Rev. Albert Biever, Messrs. Lawrence Fabacher, L. O'Donnell, C. H. Willard, H. T. Liverman, James Dinkins and E. E. Lafaye. These applicants were unanimously elected to membership.

The Society passed resolutions thanking Congressman Dupre for the bill introduced by him in Congress, providing for the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans.

*Prof. Pierce Butler was appointed a committee of one to make the necessary arrangement for the illustrated lecture on Panama, to be given at the February meeting of the Society in the Cabildo.

President Fortier reported that he had been unable to attend the meeting of the American Historical Society, but had extended an invitation to the Society to meet in New Orleans. He read replies from W. G. Leland, President of the American Historical Society, and Reuben G. Thwaites, President of the Mississippi Valley Historical Society, in reference thereto.

President Fortier informed the Society that owing to ill health and his numerous duties at the University and elsewhere he would not consent to be a candidate for the presidency of the Society for the coming year. He was urged by various members to consent to be a candidate, but specially requested that some one else be elected.

Prof. Fortier announced the resignation of Mr. Chas. T.

Soniat as First Vice President, and stated that Mr. Soniat requested that he not be named for any office for the coming year, owing to his ill-health.

The Society elected the following officers for 1913: Gaspar Cusachs, President; John Dymond, First Vice President; T. P. Thompson, Second Vice President; Henry Renshaw, Third Vice President; Robert Glenk, Corresponding Secretary; H. G. Morgan, Jr., Recording Secretary; W. O. Hart, Treasurer.

On motion of Chas. G. Gill, seconded by Judge Henry Renshaw, the Society passed resolutions thanking Prof. Fortier for his services as president of the Society for the past nineteen years, which position he had filled with ability and efficiency, and regretting his refusal to serve as president for another term of office.

Prof. Fortier read to the Society a report that he had prepared and read to the Society in 1894, outlining the work that the Society should do. He showed how the Society had endeavored to carry out these plans, and what historical work had been done the last few years. He called attention to the fact that the Society had grown from a few members to a membership now of about 400, the largest in its history. In conclusion he stated he hoped that the Society would continue its good work, and promised that he would aid and assist in any way he could.

The meeting then adjourned.

MEETING OF FEBRUARY, 1913.

The president was in the chair; Mr. Hart acted as secretary pro tem. The chairman of the membership committee presented a number of names for membership. All were elected.

Mr. W. O. Hart presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, There is now on exhibition at the State Museum a painting by Matthews representing General Lee and

his generals and containing life-size pictures of twenty-two Confederate generals; and,

WHEREAS, It is desirable that the said picture remain in the city of New Orleans; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Historical Society, That the Board of Curators of the Louisiana State Museum be requested to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the picture as a permanent exhibit in the Museum; and that the Council of the city of New Orleans is hereby memorialized to purchase or assist in purchasing the said picture, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to his Honor, the Mayor. The motion, put, duly seconded and discussed, was unanimously adopted. Mr. Hart also presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, January 8th, 1915, will be the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, the event should be fittingly celebrated in the State under the auspices of the United States, the State of Louisiana and the other States existing in the Union at that time; and,

WHEREAS, It is meet and proper that this Society should take the initiative in the matter; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the President of the Society appoint a committee of five to take into consideration the proper celebration of the event and memorialize Congress in reference thereto and communicate with the Governors of the different States on the subject. After the adoption of this resolution, Professor Alcee Fortier, the former president of the Society, was made Chairman of the Committee.

Professor Gregory of Tulane University then gave an exhaustive and interesting illustrated lecture on the Panama Canal; at the conclusion of which a vote of thanks was tendered to him and to the Isthmian Canal Commission for the use of the slides which formed so attractive a part of the lecture.

The meeting was attended by the friends and the members of the Society in large numbers.

MEETING OF MARCH 1913.

The regular monthly meeting was held in the Society's room in the Cabildo; president Gaspar Cusachs in the chair and Secretary Morgan at the desk. His Grace, Archbishop Blenk, accompanied by his private secretary, Rev. Father Jeanmard, honored the meeting with their presence. Mr. T. P. Thompson called the Society's attention to the proposed movement to honor the memory of Columbus and his "Western Passage" idea on the opening of the Panama Canal and he offered the following:

RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Historical Society heartily indorses the proposed honoring of Columbus and his "Western Passage" idea on the formal occasion of the official opening of the Panama Canal; that event being the consummation and realization of the thought which inspired the great admiral to make his last and most perilous voyage. We also endorse the plan of requesting the general government to designate as the leading boat of the first fleet to make the passage of the Canal, the *replica* of the Bermuda when properly built and presented for that purpose as intended by the citizens of New Orleans and others through our representative at Washington.

The important discussion of the evening being the restoration and perpetuation of the St. Louis Cathedral, brought to the attention of the Society by President Cusachs.

Mr. Felix J. Puig offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, There is a rumor afloat that the venerable St. Louis Cathedral is to be torn down and a new Cathedral is to be erected somewhere else in the city of New Orleans, and,

WHEREAS, The said Cathedral is one of the land marks of old New Orleans and should remain forever as a memorial of those gone before, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Historical Society, that it call upon those in charge of the Cathedral and upon the

people of New Orleans to take such steps as will secure its restoration and preservation, and that all efforts to destroy the same be condemned. The resolution as presented was seconded, but before its adoption His Grace, the Archbishop, suggested, through Mr. Thompson, the following amendment:

"It having come to the cognizance of this Society that every effort is being made to restore and preserve the St. Louis Cathedral, this body expresses its gratification at the information—so perfectly in harmony with the aims and purposes of the Society of Keeping intact the monuments of historic significance and importance in Louisiana; it promises within the measure of its influence to promote this movement of restoration and it encourages all citizens of New Orleans and of the State to come to the aid of those on whom rests the responsibility of perpetuating this famed landmark, not only of New Orleans but of the entire territory comprised in the Louisiana Purchase." Seconded by Mr. Gill, the amendment was adopted and passed, and the resolution offered by Mr. Puig was withdrawn.

At the conclusion of the business session Dr. Geo. Kent delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on Lexington and Concord. The Society passed a vote of thanks to Dr. Kent.

Six new members were admitted to the Society.

* * *

MEETING OF APRIL 1913.

The regular monthly meeting was held in the Cabildo. President Cusachs called the meeting to order. After the reading of the minutes by the secretary, a number of names for applications for membership, presented by the Chairman of the Membership Committee, were elected. Mr. W. O. Hart asked and secured the reconsideration of the motion previously adopted regarding the Celebration of the Centennial of the Battle of New Orleans and a motion was made that the President appoint a committee of nine to attend to the matter.

The paper of the evening was contributed by Mrs. Julia Truitt Bishop on "The Very Oldest Louisiana Poem." She delighted her audience. A general discussion following on several historic subjects, particularly on the date of the unveiling of the Andrew Jackson monument in Jackson Square. Mr. Thompson recalled a few points concerning the history of the monument and stated that the Historical Society records in the Cabildo would easily clear up any errors existing on the subject.

* * *

MAY 1913.

The meeting was held in the Cabildo. The president called it to order and after the routine transaction of business, the President appointed the following Committee of Arrangements for the Celebration of the Centennial of the Battle of New Orleans: Prof. Alcee Fortier, chairman; Messrs. John Dymond, T. P. Thompson, W. O. Hart, Hart Newman, W. K. Dart, S. Roy, P. C. Cavaroc, J. J. Rochester, S. J. Schwarts and Victor Wogan, with President Cusachs as ex-officio chairman.

President Cusachs read a letter from Timothy Pickering, the historian, dated Washington, Aug. 2nd, 1813, addressed to Daniel Clark of New Orleans. Mr. Cusachs added a brief account of the life of Pickering. He then presented to the Society a picture of Mr. Charles de Maurian, the distinguished chess player formerly a resident of New Orleans, and lately deceased in Paris. The portrait was a gift from Madame de Maurian.

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MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1913.

The regular Autumn meeting of the Society was held in the Cabildo in the evening of November, 1913.

In the absence of the president, Mr. John Dymond presided. The programme of the evening included two notable papers, one by Mr. William Beer on the "Work of the

Historical Department of Mississippi," and "Some Notes On New Orleans During 1840." And a paper by Mr. T. P. Thompson on the "Centennial Celebration of the Birth of Father Rouquette." Both papers were greatly appreciated; Mr. Beer's because of its historical helpfulness, and Mr. Thompson's for its interesting account of the life and work of the noted missionary priest and of the exercises in his honor held in the woods of Bayou Lacombe, where he dwelt for the latter part of his life. A committee formed of Mrs. H. M. Gill, Judge Henry Renshaw and Mr. W. O. Hart presented resolutions on the death of Miss Jennie Wilde, who was a valuable member of the Society. Judge Renshaw read a sketch of Miss Wilde, giving her distinguished ancestry and paying tribute to the fine work she had accomplished in the community as a designer of the city's famed Carnival pageants.

The memorial resolutions submitted by the committee were adopted.

The request of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association that the Louisiana Historical Society contribute to the work of compiling the early history of the valley from French sources, was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act. Professor Alcee Fortier, Chairman of the Committee in charge of the preparations for the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, in 1915, made a report of the progress of his committee. The chairman of the Membership Committee presented the names of candidates for membership. All were unanimously elected.

* * *

MEETING OF DECEMBER, 1913.

Mr. Cusachs, in the chair. Mr. W. O. Hart was acting as Secretary, pro tem. The membership committee presented a number of names for membership. All were elected. The following resolution, offered by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Dymond, was adopted unanimously.

"WHEREAS, W. L. Flemming, a member of this Society, holding the Chair of History in the Louisiana State University, is about to begin the publication of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, to cover the field of the Mississippi Valley and the country West of the Alleghanies, that is, the North and South central States; which field is not adequately covered by any other historical review, and as in the reviews now published, proper attention is not given to this section of the country, therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Historical Society binds itself to contribute to the said review, when called upon, the sum of fifty dollars."

The President read two unpublished letters; one from John Collier, professing fealty to the United States and denying any intention to aid the Spanish; and the other from James Collier regarding the receipt for his three slaves who had gone to Mobile from the Mississippi territory. Mr. Cusachs also read a letter from Gov. Miro dated New Orleans, Sept. 7th, 1785, and a letter from Captain Sanzos written to Orsomo, Governor of Mobile, dated from New Orleans, Oct. 12th, 1802. Mr. Cusachs stated that the letters, written in Spanish, were in his possession and were a part of his private collection of Louisiana manuscripts.

Prof. Fortier gave an account of the life and services of Gen. Camille A. J. M. de Polignac, who had served in the Confederate army, dwelling on the distinction he had won in the battle of Mansfield, and of his death in Paris. Prof. Stubbs spoke briefly of the battle and Mr. Cusachs added some personal reminiscences of Gen. de Polignac.

Mr. Hart read some letters written on the battlefield of New Orleans, Jan. 6th and 13th, and on March 3rd, 1815.

Mr. Dymond spoke of the capture of New Orleans in 1862 and Bishop Thirkield expressed his appreciation of his membership in the Society and of his first visit to Louisiana in 1884 at the time of the Exposition.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 1914.

The meeting of the Society was held in the Cabildo on Wednesday evening, January 21, 1914, and was well attended.

The meeting was called to order by President Gaspar Cusachs, with Secretary H. G. Morgan, Jr., at his desk.

Reports of the officers showing the business and work of the Society during the past year were read.

Treasurer W. O. Hart stated that the minutes of the previous meeting embodied, in substance, any report which he could then make, and asked that his report be allowed to stand.

Mr. Robt. Glenk, Corresponding Secretary, read his very interesting and comprehensive report of the work accomplished by the the Society throughout the past year.

Recording Secretary H. G. Morgan, Jr., enumerated and made report on the various meetings, lectures and other functions of the year 1913, that had been held.

President Gaspar Cusachs, in a verbal report, outlined the progress and ambitions of the Society, and earnestly appealed to the members to continue to cultivate and maintain a lively interest in its welfare; to further in every way its laudable ends and purposes, and to make every effort to increase its membership.

On motion of Mr. W. O. Hart, the memorial resolutions as prepared by Messrs. Geo. Koppel, Judge Hy. Renshaw and himself, deploring the death of Judge Seymour, were adopted.

The regular election of officers was then declared in order.

Mr. H. M. Gill moved that the officers who served during the past year be re-elected. Mr. Gill's motion was unanimously adopted.

The officers re-elected were as follows: President, Mr. Gaspar Cusachs; First Vice-President, Mr. John Dymond, Sr.; Second Vice-President, Mr. T. P. Thompson; Third Vice President, Judge Henry Renshaw; Treasurer, Mr. W.

O. Hart; Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Robert Glenk; Recording Secretary, H. G. Morgan, Jr.

Vice-Presidents Dymond and Thompson strongly urged upon the members the necessity of infusing additional interest in the work of the Society, calling their attention to the ideals and aspirations of its founders, and expressing the hope that the work would henceforth be vigorously pushed.

The only new business transacted was the adoption of a resolution, by Mr. W. O. Hart, as follows:

"WHEREAS, one of the greatest events now under consideration is the International Celebration of the 100 years of peace between English-speaking peoples, 1914-1915, and considering particularly that a part of the celebration is scheduled to take place in this city; therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED, by the Louisiana Historical Society, That a committee of five be appointed to arrange for an historical prize essay contest in the high schools and colleges of this City and State on the subject of "What the One Hundred Years of Peace Between English-speaking Peoples Has Meant to the World," the contest to be completed early in April, the successful essay to be printed and distributed so as to be read in the schools on April 30th, and that the committee be authorized to have made a medal or other suitable testimonial to be given to the writer of the best essay, and for this purpose be authorized to expend not more than the sum of \$50 for the testimonial, postage, printing and other expenses connected with the work, and the printing and distribution of the essay."

President Cusachs appointed the following gentlemen to act on the prize Peace Essay Committee:

Mr. W. O. Hart, chairman; Mr. H. M. Gill, Rev. Geo. Kent, Mr. John Dymond, Sr., and Mr. B. P. Sullivan.

The President appropriately and gratefully acknowledged the receipt of a small portrait of Bernard Marigny, presented by Mr. Edgar Grima, and a seal of the old "Theatre d' Orleans."

The President thereafter announced that Col. H. J. De La Vergne would present to the Society, in the name of Miss Lucie Claiborne a fine portrait, in oil, of her grandfather, W. C. C. Claiborne, the first Governor of Louisiana.

Col. De La Vergne's graceful and interesting presentation address was admirably rendered, and was warmly applauded.

Mr. H. M. Gill, in formally accepting the portrait in behalf of the Library Committee of the Society, consisting of Messrs. W. O. Hart, H. P. Dart and himself, paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of Governor Claiborne. His oration was soul-stirring and brilliant, and was enthusiastically received by his audience.

Mr. W. O. Hart moved that the address of Col. De La Vergne and Mr. Gill be made part of the next publication issued by the Society. Adopted.

Mr. Hart then called attention to the honor recently conferred upon the grandson of the first Governor, the Hon. Chas. F. Claiborne, a member of the Society, recently appointed to the bench of the State Court of Appeal. It shows, continued Mr. Hart, that the appointment accentuates the family prestige, and reflects credit on the Louisiana Historical Society, in elevating one of its active members to a high judicial position.

Judge Claiborne being present at the meeting, feelingly expressed his thanks to Col. De La Vergne, to Mr. Gill and others for the tributes paid to the memory of his distinguished ancestor.

(Delivered January 21, 1914, by Col. Hughes J. de la Vergne.)

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Miss Lucie Claiborne has requested me to present the portrait of her grandfather, Governor William Charles Cole Claiborne, to the Louisiana Historical Society. It is an honor and pleasure for me to offer to the Louisiana Historical Society, in behalf of Miss Lucie Claiborne, this por-

trait of Governor Claiborne, one of the Governors who pre-eminently graced the gubernatorial chair of the State of Louisiana.

William Charles Cole Claiborne was born in Sussex County, Virginia, in the year 1775. He was the second of four sons of Colonel William Claiborne and Mary Heigh; his family had been settled in Virginia for nearly 200 years and were the descendants of that William Claiborne sometimes styled in history "The evil genius of Maryland, but better known as the earliest champion of the State rights." He spent a short time at the College of William and Mary and ended his school days at the Richmond Academy. His father's limited means compelled him to depend entirely upon his own exertions to carve out his fortune. At the age of 16 he left his native State and proceeded to New York to seek employment. He was there kindly received by John Beckley, Esq., of Virginia, with whom he had some acquaintance and who was then Clerk of the House of Representatives of Congress. He was immediately engaged to copy bills and resolutions of Congress and drawing original bills for members and committees of that body. These duties occupying him but a portion of his time, the balance was devoted to attending the debates of Congress, reading political works, and learning the French language. Congress soon removed to Philadelphia, and thither Claiborne followed it. In the course of his duties he formed the acquaintance of Vice-President Adams, Thomas Jefferson and General John Sevier, then a delegate from, and afterwards Governor of Tennessee. While in Philadelphia, he became a member of the Polemic Society. It is to be presumed that the debates of that society gave him a taste for the disputations and contentions of the bar as it is then that he made up his mind to adopt the profession of law. He returned to Richmond and after a short time received his license. On the pressing advice of his friend Gen. Sevier and on his assurance of friendship and assistance, Claiborne directed his steps to Sullivan County in the then Territory

of Tennessee, and settled there to practice law. Soon after Tennessee demanded admission into the Union as a State, and a Convention was called to form a constitution; Claiborne was elected a member. General Sevier was elected Governor. He appointed Claiborne, who was then not yet twenty-two years of age, Judge of the State Supreme Court of Law and Equity. He continued but a short time in this office when he resigned to become a candidate for the House of Representatives of Congress to which he was elected in August, 1797. Just at this time, 1797 (he was re-elected in 1799), occurred the animated contest for the Presidency between Jefferson and Burr, which was referred to Congress. The result depended upon the vote from Tennessee, and Claiborne turned the even scales in favor of Jefferson. In July, 1801, he was appointed Governor of the Mississippi Territory by President Jefferson.

While still in this office he was appointed, November 10, 1803, commissioner, with General Wilkinson to receive, on behalf of the United States, and take possession of the Province of Louisiana from the French. He afterwards received the Commission of Governor General of that province. His powers as such were supreme in the executive, legislative and judicial departments, and were exercised without appeal, in the same manner as they had been by the Spanish Intendents. On the creation of the Territory of Orleans, March 2, 1805, Claiborne was appointed Governor thereof, relinquishing then the governorship of the Mississippi Territory. When Louisiana became a State, in 1812, Claiborne was elected by the people Governor over two competitors; the popular and influential, General Jacques Philippe Villere of chivalric courage and high personal character, and the beloved representative of the numerous creole population, and Mr. Jean Noel Destrehan, a planter of large fortune and vast enterprise, who afterwards became United States Senator. The vote stood Claiborne, 3,757; Villere, 1,947; Destrehan, 268. Under the State Constitution, it then became the duty of the Legislature to choose the

governor by ballot from the two highest candidates; the vote stood: Claiborne, 33; Villere, 6.

Being ineligible, under the State Constitution, after the expiration of the term for which he had been elected, he closed his administration in December, 1816. For the first time since his election to the convention of Tennessee in 1796, he became a private citizen. On the 13th of January, 1817, however, he was chosen by the Legislature of Louisiana, Senator to Congress of the United States. But he did not live to see the end of this term. After a long and painful illness he died in New Orleans on November 23, 1817, at the age of 42.

The City Council passed befitting resolutions and appropriated seventeen hundred dollars for the erection of a monumental tomb over his remains; St. Gils was the sculptor, and Christ Church the place, selected. His tomb was afterwards removed to the old St. Louis Cemetery, Basin Street. But, owing to the sectarian and exclusive views of the Catholic administration of that particular place of burial, which raised a distinction between the dead of their own faith and those of other Christian denominations and effectually divided off their tombs by an impossible barrier, an humble family monument has been erected in the Metairie Cemetery to commemorate his name and gather together the departed ones of his family name. In manners Governor Claiborne was urbane and polished. In form, tall and manly, with a face uncommonly beautiful. Of his private character Gayarre informs us that it was mild, yet determined and when occasion demanded conciliatory. His integrity was never questioned, though he was not without political enemies. He left a respected memory in the State of which he had been so long the Chief Magistrate.

His courage was undoubted; he gave evidence of it in private rencontres and in public military services during the invasion of his State by the English in 1814 and 1815.

Jealous of his own exalted powers, he, nevertheless, acknowledged the supremacy of the judiciary, yielding his

own views to their interpretation of the laws and encouraging, exhorting and compelling the people to do likewise. The most remarkable instance of this quality occurred in the celebrated claim laid to the batture in front of the City of New Orleans by Edward Livingston, who was personally hostile to him, but who was maintained in possession because the courts had decided in his favor, although the Governor doubted and did not favor his pretensions. In a private letter Claiborne says: "Rely upon it, my friend, that the danger that menaces us, and our institutions in the future is from executive interference and its tendency to usurp and accumulate power." He was devotedly attached to his country and to the form of its Government and the genius of its laws.

Born at the inception of the Revolutionary War, when the minds of the people were inflamed against the rule of the mother country and the whole system was inflamed with the same fire of independence and freedom, he imbibed at his mother's breast bitter hostility to despotic governments and an ardent love for republican institutions; his boyhood was passed amid the scenes of the war of Independence, and his young ears caught the patriotic speech of his elders. In this state of enthusiasm and excitement, it is not astonishing that we should read on his Latin grammar this motto which had caught his fancy: "*Cara patria, carrier libertas; ubi est libertas, ibi est mea patria.*" This motto was engraved upon his tombstone. He was first married to Miss Eliza Lewis, of Nashville. She accompanied him to New Orleans, where she fell a victim to yellow fever. From her he had no offspring. He next married Miss Clarissa Duralde, daughter of a magistrate of Louisiana. From this marriage there was born to them a son, named like him, Wm. C. C. Claiborne. This Claiborne died in August, 1878, leaving a widow who was born Louise de Balathier, daughter of Count Armand Joseph deB. and of Caroline de la Grange, and a number of children established in New Orleans, among whom is Miss Lucie. In 1812 he married a

third time to Miss Suzette Bosque. He had from her two children, Charles William W. Claiborne, who died in 1879, childless, and Sophonia, wife of Colonel Mandeville de Marnigny who is also dead.

I hope, Mr. President, that you will place this portrait in the place of honor in this hall, this same hall in which Governor Claiborne, one hundred years ago, was supreme Magistrate.

FEBRUARY, 1914.

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Society's room in the Cabildo. After the transaction of the usual business Mr. Hart moved that the following be adopted:

RESOLVED, That the President appoint a committee of nine to prepare suitable resolutions of respect to the memory of our distinguished deceased ex-President, Profesor Alcee Fortier, who died February 17th, 1914, the said resolutions to be presented at the next meeting of the Society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Committee be authorized to have a portrait made of Professor Fortier, similar to the portraits of other presidents now on the walls of the Society's room, said portrait to be suitably framed and placed in a permanent place in the Society's room.

The President appointed the following committee: Mr. T. P. Thompson, Chairman; Chief Justice Breaux, Judge C. E. Claiborne, Prof. V. B. Dixon, Dr. A. G. Friedrichs, Messrs. William Beer, Robert Glenk, W. O. Hart, Geo. Koppel, E. A. Parsons.

On motion of Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Thompson, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, There has been organized in Baltimore the "Star Spangled Banner Centennial" celebration, recognized by the General Assembly of Maryland, by the Congress of the United States and by other States including Louisiana and this Society having been invited to appoint a

committee to join with other committees to further the objects of the celebration,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the President of the Society appoint a committee of six to represent the Society at the said celebration.

The committee was appointed; Mr. W. O. Hart to be chairman.

The paper of the evening was a very witty essay "The Quaker and the Creole," contributed by Mr. Geo. Fox Martin of the University of Pennsylvania.

* * *

MARCH 18th, 1914.

The March meeting of the Society was held in its official room in the Cabildo with a full quorum present; the president in the chair; the secretary, Mr. Gibbs Morgan, at the desk. Mr. William Beer opened the proceedings by moving that an appropriation of two hundred dollars be made by the Secretary as a subscription to the fund being raised by the various historical societies of the country toward the preparation of a catalogue of the documents in the French archives relating to the history of the Mississippi Valley and that the subscription be forwarded to Mr. Dunbar Rowland, a member of the committee appointed to secure subscriptions to carry on this piece of co-operative historical work.

Seconded by Mr. Thompson, the motion passed.

Mr. Thompson, chairman of the special committee to prepare resolutions of respect to the memory of the late Prof. Fortier, read the said resolutions. Mr. James J. A. Fortier, son of the late professor, being present at the meeting, thanked the Society for its action. The death of Prof. Fortier creating a vacancy in the committee for the Celebration of the Peace Centennial, the President appointed Mr. Thompson as chairman in Mr. Fortier's place; and also

appointed Mr. James J. A. Fortier a member of the committee.

Dr. Y. R. LeMonnier related some unknown incidents in the life of General Beauregard, as published in his article in *Neale's Monthly*. Mr. George C. H. Kernion read his ably prepared and most interesting paper on "Samuel J. Peters, Merchant, Banker and Father of the Public School System of New Orleans"; a bit of biography that interested the audience in the highest degree and evoked their enthusiastic applause and thanks.

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APRIL, 1914.

The Society met in the Cabildo according to its custom. After the election of new members, a letter was read from the Iberville Historical Society of Mobile in which the Society, through its president, Mr. Irving Craighead, eulogized the late Prof. Fortier and offered a wreath to be placed on his grave. Mr. Thompson was appointed to act in the matter.

A letter was read from the Kansas State Historical Society asking for the endorsement of the D. A. R. Good Road bill introduced into the National House of Representatives by Mr. Borland of Missouri. Referred to the Louisiana representatives in Congress, Messrs. Estopinal and Dupre.

Mr. Thompson reported that he had represented the Louisiana Historical Society at the Joint Memorial Exercises in honor of the late Prof. Fortier, held by the Public School Alliance and Tulane University, and that he had also made the arrangement for the painting of a portrait in oil of Mr. Fortier. As chairman of the Peace Celebration Committee he announced that a tentative programme for a three days' celebration had been agreed upon. The com-

mittee of thirteen originally named was authorized to increase its number to forty-eight.

Mr. Hart reported that a lively interest was being taken in the "Peace Centennial Prize Essay" by the public schools. The following members were asked to serve as judges in the contest: Prof. George Soule, Miss Mary Finney, Messrs. J. H. Fulton, M. J. Sanders and Ex-Lieut. Gov. G. D. Hands of Mississippi.

Colonel Hugues de la Vergne presented to the Society the portraits of his ancestors, Col. Hughes de la Vergne and Col. Jules de la Vergne, and the portraits of his relatives, Gustavus Schmidt, Esq., and Charles E. Schmidt, Esq. Mr. Hart spoke to the Society of his personal recollections of these gentlemen, mentioning many interesting biographical facts concerning them.

Mr. Paul Gelpi, through Mr. William K. Dart and on behalf of Madame Charles A. de Maurian of Paris, presented the Society with a daguerrotype of Paul Morphy, the famous chess player of New Orleans.

Mr. William K. Dart then read a most interesting, instructive and well written paper on "Walt Whitman in New Orleans." The poet, for three months in 1848, having lived in the city, working as a reporter on the staff of the newspaper *The Crescent*. Mr. Dart was complimented on his excellent paper and was given the thanks of the Society.

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MAY, 1914.

The Society met on Wednesday evening, May 20th, in the Cabildo. Miss Grace King presented the paper of the evening; prefacing it with the explanation that owing to the shortness of time allowed her for the preparation of a paper she was forced to read an article written by her many years before and printed in the *Harper's Magazine* in Jan. 1901, entitled "The Old Cabildo." It was enthusiastically received and applauded by the Society. In the course of a

discussion that followed, suggested by it, on the destructive changes wrought by architects in the past in the city, in the name of progress, Prof. Pierce Butler after a few pithy remarks moved that the Society protest officially against the proposed removal of the galleries on the buildings on Canal street and the following was passed:

RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Historical Society most earnestly desires to express to the Mayor and Commission Council of New Orleans its firm conviction that the balconies or galleries of the city adapted to the climate and to its architecture, and in many cases associated with its history and its literature, should not be removed. We hope that the mistaken idea that New Orleans, by removing her galleries, may become as prosperous as New York will not delude the people of this city into destroying one of the characteristic and convenient features of her Architecture.

Mr. W. O. Hart presented the report of the Committee on the Prize Essay on a "Centennial of Peace Among English Speaking Races," and announced that the successful competitor was Miss Ethel L. Hearne of Vinton, La. He exhibited the medal to be presented to her. At his request Miss Mary L. Finney kindly consented to read the essay aloud to the Society; and the Society thereupon expressed its appreciation of her courtesy by a vote of thanks.

Mr. T. P. Thompson called attention to the proposed reception to be given to the Governor of the State, the Hon. Luther E. Hall, by the Curators of the State Museum, and invited the members of the Society to be present.

Mr. W. O. Hart urged that the Society should hold a meeting on the third Wednesday in June, instead of as was its custom adjourning its regular meetings from May to the fall months. This was favorably considered and it was so decided.

Mr. Hart informed the Society that he had received a print of the flag of the State of Arkansas, but recently adopted and asked that it be incorporated in the minutes.

Arkansas was the third state formed from the Louisiana Purchase and the twenty-fifth State in the Union.

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JUNE, 1914.

The regular meeting of the Society was held in the Cabildo on Wednesday evening, June 17th, 1914.

Mr. Edgar H. Farrar, who was to have made the address of the evening, could not be present, owing to an enforced absence from the city. The Society, therefore, proceeded to transact its usual routine of business.

The Peace Committee reported that it had applied to the Legislature for official recognition and an appropriation for the expenses of the Celebration.

Many new members were elected to fellowship in the Society.

Mr. Hart made a report for the Committee on the Prize Essay which, he informed the Society, had been read in every public school in the city and in every High School in the State.

Reports were read from the various committees on the "Celebration of the Peace Centennial." Mr. Hart read as an appropriate contribution to the evening the full text of the Treaty of Ghent which was signed December 24th, 1814. Mr. Henry M. Gill read, by request, an article printed in the *Times-Democrat* upon the "Home of Gayoso" in the vicinity of Natchez, Miss.

Judge Henry M. Renshaw, in behalf of Mrs. James L. Bradford, presented to the Society a copy of her work on Audubon, the great naturalist. In the informal talk that followed, many interesting facts were developed in reference to the erection of the Audubon Statue, to Audubon, in the park named in his honor.

Mrs. D. A. S. Vaughn informed the Society that she had in her possession some interesting unpublished poems by Francis Scott Key, the author of the "Star Spangled Ban-

ner," offering to read some of them before the Society at a future meeting.

* * *

JULY, 1914.

The monthly meeting of the Society was held on July 15th in the Cabildo.

The chairman of the Committee of the Centennial Peace Celebration reported the passage of the bill in the Legislature, giving official status to the proposed Celebration and appropriating five thousand dollars to it. A Committee from the Society, it was decided, would go to Washington shortly to call on President Wilson with the view of getting the United States to extend an official invitation to Great Britain to participate in the ceremonies.

Mr. Hart stated that the Mississippi Valley Historical Society contemplated holding their next annual meeting in the South. Therefore, on motion, duly seconded and carried, it was resolved that the Chairman of the Peace Centennial Celebration Committee extend a cordial invitation to the Mississippi Valley Historical Society to meet the Louisiana Historical Society and take part in the ceremonies of 1915.

Mr. Thompson spoke of the proposed monument to La Salle to be erected in New Orleans or vicinity by the Mississippi Valley Historical Society and he suggested that the dedication of the site of the monument be made a part of the programme of the Peace Centennial Celebration. Some discussion following as to the proper site for such a monument, Judge Renshaw proposed that further consideration of it be deferred to a latter meeting.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. R. C. Ballard Thurston, President of the National Society, Sons of Revolution of Louisville, Ky., presenting a fac simile of a George Washington hatchet made of the wood of a cherry tree growing on the site of the birthplace of the Father of his Country.

Mr. P. M. Milner read an excellent paper on Fort Maccomb, giving evidence of considerable research and investigation. It was listened to with marked interest and elicited generous applause. By vote, duly seconded, the thanks of the Society were tendered to Mr. Milner.

In the absence of Mrs. Vaught, Mr. Henry M. Gill read some unpublished poems of Francis Scott Key, loaned by her for the occasion.

Mr. Hart spoke of the programme of the Baltimore Celebration of the "Star Spangled Banner" Centennial.

Judge Breaux made some brief remarks on the Louisiana Historical Society and its commendable work in stimulating literary activities among its members.

Rev. Father Gueymard of Nova Scotia, spoke of his visit to New Orleans and to Mobile, for the Canadian Department of Archive and History, in search of early records of the Canadian adventurers and explorers who began the settlement of the Province of Louisiana. Father Gueymard, at the request of the Society agreed to prepare a paper for the Society upon the results of his researches and upon the contrast in character between the Canadian of the North and the Canadian of the South.

* * *

NOVEMBER, 1914.

The Society reassembled, after its summer vacation on the evening of November 18th, at the Cabildo. There was a large attendance of members; with the president in the chair.

Nominations were made for membership in the Society; all were duly elected.

The feature of the evening was the reading of selections from her own works by Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart, the distinguished Southern authoress; "Minerva's Valentine," in

the Southern negro dialect, accompanied with all the droll humor with which Mrs. Stuart invests her negro characters, charmed the audience. This was followed by "Sonny," in the inimitable chapter devoted to Sonny's education. "Daddy Do Funny's Wisdom Jingles," concluded the rare entertainment. On motion of Mr. Hart, Mrs. Stuart was thanked for her generosity to the Society, and was elected an honorary member of the Society.

Mr. T. P. Thompson sketched the programme, so far as it had been elaborated, of the Peace Centennial Celebration. Other Committees followed with additional details of the arrangements made and in preparation. A number of documents and pictures were presented to the Society by Mr. Hart.

Mr. Dymond referred to the matter of translating and indexing the records of the French and Spanish Domination which the Society possesses, stored away in one hundred and twenty boxes in one of the Museum vaults, and he suggested that it would be most fitting and desirable to secure the services of some eminently competent person to do the work with the view of estimating the value of the records and of eventually publishing them and making them available to the use of notaries and historians. The matter was referred by vote to the Executive Committee with full power to act.

* * *

DECEMBER, 1914.

The regular December meeting of the Society took place on the 16th, Mr. Cusachs presiding.

Judge Joseph A. Breaux read an interesting paper on "The Early Schools and Colleges of Louisiana," a subject upon which he was well prepared to write. The thanks of the Society were extended to Judge Breaux.

Thirty-four new members were elected into the Society.

MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 1915.

The meeting was called to order by President Gaspar Cusachs, and the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting being dispensed with on motion duly seconded, Mr. Cusachs announced that as it was desired that a very full record should be had of reports of the various Chairmen of Committees connected with the centennial celebration, at the request of Mr. W. O. Hart, Mr. J. A. Wisong, a member of the Society, would act as Secretary for the evening and take down the minutes in shorthand.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Cusachs stated that he had no special report to make, that all present had seen and participated in the celebration, which had been a great success. He had also to report a wonderful increase in the membership of the Society, which was principally due to the centennial celebration.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Mr. W. O. Hart reported that the Society had almost \$500.00 in bank, and that all debts had been paid.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY: (Published below.)

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: Mr. T. P. Thompson made his report as follows:

"Mr. President and members of the Louisiana Historical Society: I congratulate you upon the fact that the programme as outlined for this celebration was carried through in every detail. Many thought that not all could be gone through, but as far as I know everything was carried out substantially as we had hoped for. Before continuing my report, I want to apologize if the feelings of anyone have been hurt in this second battle of New Orleans.

"If we exceeded our appropriation it was necessary. There were some 240 guests of our city, and among them many distinguished in position and in their persons. Every seat at the banquet was taken, and it was one of the most

notable gatherings that ever took place in New Orleans. Both Mr. Peters, who represented President Wilson, and Mrs. Peters, observed that never in their experience had they enjoyed a more delightful function.

"We have present, invited, the chairmen of the various sub-committees of the celebration. It was in great part due to their energetic and intelligent co-operation that the celebration was a success, and the President will call on them in order that they may tell of the work they did, and we hope one day to publish in one volume the reports of those who took part in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans; so I am going so leave with the President a list of the committees and their Chairmen. I thank you for your attention."

Mr. Cusachs called upon the Chairman of the Invitation Committee. Mr. W. O. Hart responded, and stated that as he did not see the Chairman of the Banquet Committee present, he would also make his report.

The reports of the various committees followed: On Finance, J. B. Levert; Publicity Committee, Sam Blum; Committee on Patriotic Societies, A. B. Booth; Committee on Public Schools, Prof. J. M. Gwin; Committee on Ursulines, Mrs. W. J. Behan; Ladies' Reception Committee, Mrs. Gill.

NEW BUSINESS: Under the head of "new business" Mr. Thompson moved that a Committee of three be appointed as a special Committee of thanks, and Mr. Cusachs appointed Mr. T. P. Thompson, Chairman; Mr. Koppel and Mr. Hart.

Mr. Gill moved for a rising unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Cusachs for the able manner in which he presided over the ceremonies, which was duly seconded and carried.

Mr. Cusachs announced the annual election of officers was in order, and on motion of Gen. Booth, seconded by Col. Levert, the officers of the Society, Gaspar Cusachs, President; John Dymond, T. P. Thompson and Judge Hy. Renshaw, Vice Presidents; W. O. Hart, Treasurer; Robt. Glenk,

Corresponding Secretary and Librarian; and Miss Grace King, Recording Secretary, were re-elected, Mr. Cusachs having in the meantime called Mr. Gill to the chair to preside as temporary chairman.

After an acknowledgment of the honor conferred upon him by his re-election by Mr. Cusachs, the meeting adjourned, there being no further business.

REPORT OF ROBERT GLENK, ASST. SECRETARY.

Mr. President and Members of the Louisiana Historical Society:

For your information the following report of the work performed by your Corresponding Secretary and Librarian for the year 1914 is presented:

Ten monthly meetings of the Society were called and two extra illustrated lectures were given—the special features of these meetings were: In January, Prof. J. Hubert Comyn spoke on "Modern Mexico," and Col. H. J. de la Vergne made the presentation of the portrait of Governor W. C. C. Claiborne.

In February, Mr. Geo. Fox Martin discoursed upon the "Quaker and the Creole," and Rev. Geo. Kent gave an illustrated talk on "The World's Fair in 1904."

In March Mr. Geo. C. H. Kernion read a paper on Sam'l. J. Peters, merchant, banker and father of the New Orleans Public School System.

In April Mr. Wm. Kernan Dart spoke of Walt Whitman in New Orleans.

In May Miss Grace King read a paper on the Cabildo.

In June Mr. Cusachs read a number of important unpublished letters and documents relative to Louisiana History.

In July Mr. P. M. Milner read a paper on Fort McComb, and Prof. H. M. Gill read some unpublished poems of Francis Scott Key.

In October Mr. Thompson read a paper on Early Banking in New Orleans.

In November, Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart read selections from her character stories; and,

In December Judge Jos. A. Breauux presented a paper on the early schools and colleges in Louisiana.

The total attendance at these meetings was 516 persons,

averaging 43 at each lecture. This is a rather slim attendance when the comparatively large membership in the society is considered.

On January 1, 1914, the total number of members enrolled in the society was 423.

On January 1, 1915, the number is 484, showing an increase of 61 members over the previous year.

In the year 1914 98 persons were elected to membership in the Society.

There were 15 deaths and 22 resignations.

It is with profound sorrow we record the death of the following esteemed members during the year 1914: Prof. Alcee Fortier, Gen. T. W. Castleman, Judge W. H. Seymour, Mr. Morgan Whitney, Mr. A. A. Lelong, Rev. I. L. Leucht, Mr. C. M. Eiseman, J. F. Walton, H. L. Saylor, Chicago; E. T. Lagarde, L. B. Lebeuf, A. H. Fleming, Dr. M. E. Brown, F. E. Bernard, M. L. Costley.

Among those who resigned were Ex-Governors Blanchard and Heard, Prof. B. V. B. Dixon and Mr. Robert Ewing.

The growth of the Society, since 1895, has been as follows:

	Honorary.	Active
1895 (close)	12	93
1896 (Dec. 31)	12	130
1897 and 1900 (between)	5	108
1902	7	114
1904	6	224
1905	7	237
1906	8	237
1908	11	239
1911	11	216
1912	10	382
1913	10	423
1914 (Dec. 31st)	10	484

It might also be interesting to know that the present membership of the Society is made up as follows:

Gentlemen	387
Ladies	97
Residing in the Parish of Orleans.....	431
Residing outside the city.....	53

As the Louisiana Historical Society is concerned with the history and traditions of the entire State, it should derive a much larger proportion of members from the other parishes of Louisiana so as to make it a representative State Historical Society.

The library of the Society has grown substantially during the year, there being now 610 volumes and 1,500 pamphlets on the shelves—an increase of 400 books and 600 periodicals and pamphlets in 1914—50 volumes of periodicals and proceedings have been bound and shelved during the year.

The following eighty-one societies are sending their publications regularly to the library:

- Academy of Pacific Coast History.
- Alabama Anthropological Society.
- American Catholic Historical Society.
- American Antiquarian Society.
- American Historical Association.
- American Jewish Historical Society.
- Presbyterian Historical Society.
- Missouri Historical Society.
- State Historical Society of Missouri.
- United Confederate Veteran Association.
- Massachusetts Historical Society.
- State Historical Society of Wisconsin.
- Connecticut Historical Society.
- Indiana State Historical Society.
- Cambridge Historical Society.
- Texas State Historical Association.

Old Dartmouth Historical Society.
State Hist. Society—Iowa.
N. Y. State Historical Association.
N. Y. Historical Society.
Ill. State Historical Society.
Ill. State Historical Library.
Historical Department of Iowa.
Minnesota Historical Society.
North Carolina Historical Commission.
Historical Society of New Mexico.
Chicago Historical Society.
Western Reserve Historical Society.
Vineland Historical Society.
Department Archives and History of Mississippi.
Mississippi Valley Historical Association.
Nebraska State Historical Society.
Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio.
Rhode Island Historical Society.
Oklahoma Historical Society.
Wyoming Historical Society—Wilkesbarre, Pa.
Virginia Historical Society.
Washington University St. Louis Historical Studies.
North Carolina Historical Society.
Vermont Historical Society.
Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society.
New Jersey Historical Society.
Kansas State Historical Society.
Kentucky State Historical Society.
Fillson Club of Louisville.
Colorado State Historical Society.
Georgia Historical Society.
West Virginia Historical Society.
South Carolina Historical Society.
Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society.
Cayuga County Historical Society.
Niagara Historical Society.
New Hampshire Historical Society.

Univ. N. C. James Sprunt Hist. Public.
 Iowa Journal History and Politics.
 Historical Society Pennsylvania.
 Rochester Historical Society.
 Haverhill Historical Society.
 Fairhaven Historical Society.
 American Folk Lore Society.
 Sauk County Historical Society.
 Historical Society Montg. Co., Pa.
 Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies.
 Site and Relic Society, Germantown, Pa.
 Historical Society Western, Pa.
 Pennsylvania History Club.
 Woman's Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
 Historical Society Montgomery County, Pennsylvania
 Oneida Historical Society.
 Ontario County Historical Society.
 Long Island Historical Society.
 Firelands Historical Society.
 • Beverly Historical Society.
 Maryland Historical Society.
 Danvers Historical Society.
 Trinity College Historical Society.
 Nevada Historical Society.
 Maine Historical Society.
 Evanston Historical Society.
 Montreal Historical Society.

The Michigan Pioneer Historical Society has sent 24 bound volumes of their publications to complete our files and 16 volumes were received from the New York Historical Society. The following books were purchased by the Society: Athanase de Mezieres and the Louisiana-Texas Frontier, 1768-1780, by Herbert Eugene Bolton, 1914; 2 volumes Timothy Flint, by Prof. Kirkpatrick; Gen. Sherman as College President, by Prof. W. L. Fleming.

A large number of the publications of the Louisiana Historical Society are stored away in the library, especially

Volumes 4, 5 and 6. Part 1 of Volume 2 and Part 1 of Volume 3 are entirely out, and as a number of the institutions exchanging with the Louisiana Historical Society are anxious to complete their files of the Society's publications, donations of Part 1 of Volumes 2 and 3 would be welcomed, if they could be spared. The preparation of Volume 7 of the Proceedings of the Society is in the hands of Miss Grace King and will soon be ready for printing.

Miss Freret, the librarian of the State Museum, has prepared 1,100 index cards on the subject-matter of the books and pamphlets of the Society, making the historical data available to members and the public.

Dr. William Price, of Yale University, has been at work since November 1st indexing and translating the various documents and notarial records in the Society's possession in the 130 boxes on storage in the vaults. He has discovered many interesting and valuable facts which should later serve for publication. An appropriation of \$25 per month for twelve months has been made by the Society to continue this laudable work and an equal amount is contributed by the State Museum.

In March the Society appropriated \$200 as its pro rata to pay for the preparation of a catalogue of documents in the French Archives relating to Mississippi Valley History and at the January meeting it was voted to contribute \$50 to the endowment fund of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review for the publication of the quarterly.

Loans and contributions to the Society's collection of books and relics, for the year 1914, have been as follows:

Mrs. Bradford presented a copy of her work on J. J. Audubon.

Mr. Wm. Beer, presented 49 City Directories.

Mrs. Chas. A. deMaurian, through Mr. W. K. Dart, a daguerrotype of Paul Morphy.

Mr. Edgar Grima, engraving of Bernard Marigny, seal of Theatre d'Orleans.

Miss Lucie Claiborne, portrait of Gov. W. C. C. Claiborne.
Dr. Y. R. LeMonnier, Neals Monthly, February, 1914.

Mrs. M. A. Forwood, Certificate of Membership in Lexington Monument Association.

Mr. W. O. Hart, Peace Celebration Pamphlets, Sketch of State Flag of Arkansas.

Paper money, \$3 denomination, St. Tammany Par., 1862.

Pictorial Map of Haverhill, Mass

Loaned or donated during Celebration:

Miss Chaplain—loaned:

White brocade vest worn by Mr. Chotard at his wedding, 1820.

Chotard family—loaned:

Hair of Gen. Jackson.

Buckle of Maj. Chotard, A. D. C. Gen. Jackson, Battle of New Orleans.

Button from uniform.

Daguereotype of Miss Eliza Chotard.

Daguereotype of Major Chotard.

Mrs. Edwin Walters Rodd—loaned:

Sword sash worn by Col. Maunsell White, A. D. C. Gen. Jackson at Battle of New Orleans.

Miss Marie Ogden—loaned:

Portrait of Capt. Peter V. Ogden.

Order signed by Gen. Jackson to Capt. Peter V. Ogden to confine Dominique Hall, March 11, 1815.

Miss Vredenberg—loaned:

Portrait of Bishop Du Bourg.

Photo of Pierre F. Du Bourg, brother of Bishop.

Crystal goblet presented to Bishop Du Bourg.

Paper knife presented by Gen. Jackson to Bishop Du Bourg.

Will of Bishop Du Bourg.

Lace wedding dress of Miss M. L. E. Du Bourg, niece of Bishop.

Lace wedding handkerchief of Miss M. L. E. Du Bourg, niece of Bishop.

- Picture of niece and grand nieces of Bishop Du Bourg.
- Mr. Gaspar Cusachs**—loaned:
- Napoleon medal presented by Gen. Bertrand to Captain Barnett, with twig and stone taken from tomb of Napoleon at St. Helena.
 - Sword of Pierre Maspero.
 - Pair duelling swords.
 - Ordre des ceremonies 8th January, 1828. Jackson celebration.
 - Badge Jackson Monument Association, 1856.
 - Cut of General Plauche.
 - Large collection of Arms and Weapons of historic interest.
- Misses Abadie:**
- Two fans.
- Mr. S. Taylor Jackson**—loaned:
- Sword and stiletto used by Col. Edwin Boyd Jackson at Battle of New Orleans, 1815.
- N. Y. Historical Society, through Mr. Hart:**
- *Fac simile reproductions of letters of Gov. Claiborne, Andrew Jackson, General Wilkinson; memorial to Thos. Jefferson, manuscript map military operations New Orleans, 1814, view of Battle of New Orleans.
- American Jewish Hist. Soc., through Mr. Hart**—loaned:
- Biography Judah Touro, German, and Biographical sketch of Judah Touro and Judah P. Benjamin.
- Mrs. W. W. Wallis:**
- Old magazines and invitations:
- Col. H. de la Vergne:**
- Crayon portrait of Col. Hughes de la Vergne.
 - Crayon portrait of Col. Jules de la Vergne.
 - Crayon portrait of Gustavus Schmidt.
 - Crayon portrait of Charles E. Schmidt.
- Judge R. Marr:**
- Diploma of R. M. Marr, Nashville University, 1838, autog. of And. J. Jackson.

Mr. Rosenberg:

"Recollections of the Great West," book by Howe.

Mr. R. C. Ballard Thurston, Louisville:

George Washington hatchet made of cherry tree wood
from home of George Washington, Wakefield, Va.

Mr. Alf. Hennen Morris, through Mr. Hart:

Picture of "Retreat."

Mrs. C. Coutourie—loaned:

Scarf, sword, pistol and holster and leather belt of A.
de Armas, Civil War.

Mrs. Geo. Sarpy, through Mrs. Werlein—loaned:

Portrait of Mrj. Alex. La Branche.

Mrs. Bernard Menge, through Mrs. Werlein—loaned:

Seal given by And. Jackson to Mr. Brand; lock of And.
Jackson's hair mounted in gold case; four letters by
And. Jackson, Mrs. Jackson and Gen. Morgan.

Mrs. E. N. Moore, through Mrs. Werlein—loaned:

Silver mounted target rifle used by R. P. Bowie, 1815,
flint lock.

J. B. Pelletier:

Flagstaff and remnants of flag used in Battle of New
Orleans; portrait in oil of General Jackson; 2 rosters
of troops which took part in Battle of New Orleans
and a Jackson letter.

Mrs. Wm. Preston Johnson—loaned:

Three cotton bedspreads made by Acadian weavers.

Silhouette of Dudley Avery, veteran under Gen. Phile-
men Thomas in Battle of New Orleans.

Miss Margaret Ker Texada, Boyce, La.:

Photograph of Caroline Ker.

Mr. Stanley Arthur:

Letter from Jackson's headquarters to Drs. Herman
and Spencer, 1815.

Letter of acceptance of duties from Drs. Herman and
Spencer, 1815.

Letter from David Ker to Dr. Herman.

Mrs. Victoria M. O'Keefe—loaned:

Badge, Jackson celebration, 1815.

Blue badge Jackson celebration, 1845.

Picture of John Mitchel, veteran of 1815.

Widow's pension papers of Mary Mitchel.

Notice of increase of widow's pension War 1812-15.

Slave (papers) John Mitchel to his children.

Commission of John Mitchel by Derbigny, 1829.

Miss R. L. Nixon:

Sword of Adj. John Nixon, 1815.

Newspaper clipping relating to Gen. Morgan at Battle of New Orleans.

Grateful acknowledgment has been made in the name of the Society to each of these contributors, for their courtesy.

On January 9th the portrait of Prof. Alcee Fortier, former president of the Society was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies and now hangs upon the wall in the meeting-room.

The office work performed by the Secretary has been as follows: 7,000 notices sent out to members and others announcing the meetings and lectures of the society; 225 business letters received and replied to; 98 notices sent to new members announcing their election; 179 publications sent out to various exchanges; 2,200 envelopes addressed for committees on account of Battle of New Orleans Centennial Celebration; 4 half-tone cuts were loaned to the Catholic Home Annual, New York, and sixteen cuts to local and New York periodicals.

During the Summer a hand addressograph machine was purchased by the society and a complete set of plates prepared of the names and addresses of the members of the Society. A complete revision was also made of the membership list of the Society, making it accurate and up-to-date. Any further change in the postoffice address of any member should be promptly reported to the corresponding secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

R. G.

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